

**VOLUME LII NUMBER 1** 

**JANUARY 1999** 



#### **EBARC Meeting**

December 8, 1999 7:00 p.m.

Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ "The Radio Ham" Video and Video about Amateur TV



The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave., (near Solano) Albany.

The Executive Board meets Monday January 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the W6CUS club station, 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Post Office Box 1393
El Cerrito, CA 94530





Ronald A. Smith, KE6RS 2643 Emma Dr. Pinole, CA 94564

POSTMASTER:
Address Correction Requested

The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. The Blown Fuse welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. The Blown Fuse reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of The Blown Fuse. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Feb. issue: Tuesday, Jan. 26

[Articles can be submitted by mail, via the W6CUS packet bulletin board's AA6XZ mailbox, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to aa6xz@juno.com.]

#### Message from the President John Wood, KF6HFA

I hope that everyone has had a wonderful holiday season, that everything that you wanted you got, and that your New Year resolutions are easy this time.

Midge and I had a great time attending the various ham functions as well as spending time with friends and relatives. Other good news from our lives (at least mine) is that I have decided to retire a year sooner than planned. By January 20th, 1999, I'll be a free man.

Our heartfelt wishes for continued recovery go to Roger, KE6SZG and Robbie, N6MNL. We're all praying for you guys. Get well soon and come back; we're tired of doing your jobs for you.

I got a call from the Disaster Coordinator from Contra Costa Red Cross who wishes

to drop by at the next meeting to thank us for the donation. Let's all give him a warm welcome. I understand that he's not a ham. Maybe he can be talked into it.

For those interested in the HT programming class that I'm giving on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>, it will be held at Bob Blohm's home, 1237 Gerald Avenue, San Pablo. Call him for directions at 510-232-9117.

As a result of LIFE day, where a few of us participated in the education of the majority of the staff of the 20-some schools in the West County area into the idea of RACES, there is a possibility of participating in the planning, grant writing, purchasing, installation and use of a ham radio station in each school in the district. It seems that there is both money for and interest in such a project. Let's consider getting involved.

See you on the 8th.

#### W6CUS Club Station Report Ralph Hall, W6EFD

Nothing big to report, except that all goes well at the club station. The thing most needed at this time is more club members using our station facilities. Dr. Alan (K6SRZ) continues to use the station frequently and is still "snagging" those DX stations with great expertise. Any member in good standing, and with the required length of club membership, who desires club station access, can contact the Club Station Chairperson for the required indoctrination and personnal door key.

Reminder for packet types: the W6CUS BBS now operates on 145.630 MHz.

## W6CUS and Contesting Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ

W6CUS logged almost 600 QSO's in 6 hours and 55 minutes of operation during the recent ARRL 10 meter contest. The final score was about 200K points. At times the rate meter hit 150/hour on SSB and 90/hour on CW. Again, let me offer my services to anyone who wants to try contesting. I plan to activate W6CUS for the ARRL phone DX contest in March. With enough help, we could actually win our section!

#### **EBARC's December Party**

At December's meeting, EBARC's 1999 officers were officially installed. (See the inside back page for the new list.) Everyone also enjoyed the generous helping of potluck holiday desserts. Thanks to all who brought goodies.

Three EBARC members were honored with "1998 Amateur of the Year" medallions:
John Billones, WD6GGC was honored as "Elmer, Instructor, Craftsman, and ex-Blown Fuse Editor". Gerry White, WB6IZE, is EBARC's "Angel, Sage, and Benefactor". Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, is "Elmer, Volunteer Examiner, and Blown Fuse Editor".

This year's gift exchange was hampered by the absence of our best "stealer", Roger Nelums, and his "assistant stealer" /wife, Burgie Jones. However, we DID have lots of fun. "Midge" Wood was rooting for "open it carefully, save the paper". Bud Summerer was stolen from often, and opened lots of presents. Robbie, N6MNL, got an (empty) "HRO Shopping Basket". Someone else (who?) received an AM/FM radio "dual bander". Chet Pike stole

Marion Millar's teddy bear. Greg Small opened a nifty Maglite, had it stolen, then opened another Maglite present. Incoming prexy John Wood went home with a talking Santa in a tree.

## RENEW Now!

Avoid the dreaded, blue "PAST DUE" stamp on your February Blown Fuse, and ensure that you'll be in the 1999 Roster! (\$20 for individuals, and \$24 for families)

#### CW Class Jamie Wasson, AB6WJ

If you're interested in EBARC's class to learn either 5 wpm or 13 wpm Morse Code, e-mail photo@dnai.com or call 336-1120.

## EBARC January Meeting Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ

At the January general meeting, we'll see a short, funny video (English) titled "The Radio Ham" and a video on amateur TV. If time permits, we'll have a discussion of what kind of programs we want for 1999. If there's any time left, I'll juggle and tell jokes while riding a unicycle.

## January 4<sup>th</sup>, the Board Meets Monday!

The January EBARC Executive Board meeting is at the club station. However, since Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup> is a holiday, the meeting has moved to the following Monday.

#### Strangeness Near 3525kHz!

IFrom Brad Wyatt, K6WR, "ARRL Pacific Division Update", December 1998] During the last two weeks several East Bay, San Francisco and Santa Clara Valley Section hams have reported strange and strong signals 24 hours per day around 3525 kHz. Several specific reports have come from members of the Northern California Contest Club. This interference has been traced to the wireless modems installed with some digital TV/CATV installations. The problem has been forwarded to ARRL HQ and assigned to Ed Hare, W1RFI, in the ARRL Lab (ehare@arrl.org). Ed has made a great deal of progress this past week. He told me on Friday, Dec. 18, that he is in contact with the device manufacturers and the cable TV industry. These groups are currently working with Ed on practical solutions. I anticipate that these practical solutions will be finalized very soon, then the information will be publicized.

#### Silent Key, NM7N

In early December, Mary Lou Brown, NM7N, Director of the ARRL Northwestern Division since 1995, suddenly collapsed and died in the Los Angeles International Airport while enroute back from the VK9LX Lord Howe Island DXpedition. Mary Lou taught Physical Education at U.C. Berkeley, and has spoken to EBARC about her DX activities. We will miss this wonderful YL.

EBARC is selling Entertainment Books again this year. It's \$40 for the Greater East Bay edition and \$25 for the Solano County edition. The club keeps \$8 from each sale. To get one, contact Fred Nieman, KC6VLL, at 510-223-1748. They make wonderful gifts!

## THE BASE STATION

Your Contra Costa Ham Radio Headquarters

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#### **Future Bay Area Events**

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, 510-447-3857, evenings.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions, first Sunday in every odd-numbered month (except holidays). The next exam is Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>. For more info, call 510-741-8227.

#### Happiness is...

- Remembering to check your SWR <u>after</u> you smell smoke!
- Calling CQ on 80 meters using your 2 meter beam!
- Getting your new packet TNC just before your rig goes belly up!

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$20 for individual membership and \$24 for a family membership. For information, e-mail to w6cus@juno.com, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC official, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at the Richmond Red Cross. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.630 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

#### 1998 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

John Wood KF6HFA, President	234-0527
Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, 1st VP - Program Chair	540-8790
Mike Camp KI7FQ, 2nd VP - Hospitality Chair	524-0723
Sharon Primbsch, 3rd VP - Membership / Blown Fuse Editor	741-8227
Gordon Parsons NU6W, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair	785-4290
"Midge" Wood, KF60GC, Secretary	234-8919
Ralph Hall W6EFD, W6CUS trustee / 1998 Club Station Chair	232-0727
Henry Primbsch KK6PH, 1998 Education Chair	741-8227
Vern Orme, AA6YE, 1998 Social Committee Chair	233-4504
Cheryl Johnson, KF6HEN, 1998 Publicity Chair	222-9315
Joe Lee W6DOB, 1998 Awards Chair	724-0533
Digital and RFI Committee Chair	
Field Day Chair	
Ron Smith, KE6RS, 1998 Historian	724-5099
Fred Nieman KC6VLL, 1998 Member-at-Large	223-1748
Leo Lewis WA6ZFV, 1998 Member-at-Large	233-5034
John Billones WD6GGC, 1998 Member-at-Large	.237-1272

#### AMATEUR RADIO NETS

NET	DAYS	LOCAL TIM	E FR	EQ, MHZ
EBARC Slow CW Net	Weds	2030		21.115
EBARC SSB Net	Weds	2100		28.395
No. Calif. VHF National Traffic System Net	Daily	2030		145.210
Women's Amateur Roundtable	Weds	2000 (	PL 82.5)	145.110
West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net	Thurs	1845 (	PL 82.5)	145.110
u u u u	и	44		147.57s
Northern Alameda County ARES Net	Thurs	1915		147.48s
Contra Costa Communications Club Net	Thurs	1930 (	PL 82.5)	145.110
Elmers Net	Thurs	2000 (	PL 82.5)	145.110
Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net	Thurs	1930 (	PL 77)	146.880
"Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net	Mo-Fr	0710 (	PL 82.5)	145.110
Northern Calif. Net VHF Session	Daily	1930		145.410
"Going Home Group"	Mo-Fr	1600 (	PL 82.5)	145.110
Coming Frome Group	1410 1 1	1000 (	1 2 02.07	110.110

ARES/RACES EC - West CoCoCo. Rich Parker KD6JCT home: 237-2777, beeper: 873-7363, cell phone: 499-4557. Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s.



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BURBANK, CA 2492 W. Victory Bl., 91506 (818) 842-1786 (800) 854-6046 Mary, K6VIV, Mgr. Victory Blvd. at Buena Vista 1 mi. west I-5

OAKLAND, CA 2210 Livingston St., 94606 (510) 534-5757 (800) 854-6046 Mark, WITYN, Mgr. I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp

SAN DIEGO, CA 5375 Kearny Villa Rd., 92123 (619) 560-4900 (800) 854-6046 Tom, KM6K, Mgr. Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa

SUNNYVALE, CA 510 Lawrence Exp. #102 (408) 736-9496 (800) 854-6046 Ken, K1ZKM, Mgr. So. from Hwy. 101

NEW CASTLE, DE (Near Philadelphia) 1509 N. Dupont Hwy., 19720 (302) 322-7092 (800) 644-4476 Bob, N9GG, Mgr.

PORTLAND, OR 11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy, 97223 (503) 598-0555 (800) 854-6046 Ray, KI7TN, Mgr. Tigard-99W exit from Hwy. 5 & 217

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(Near Boston) 224 N. Broadway, 03079 (603) 898-3750 (800) 444-0047 Chuck, KM4NZ, Mgr. sales@hamradio.com Exit 1, 1-93;

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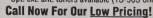
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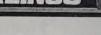


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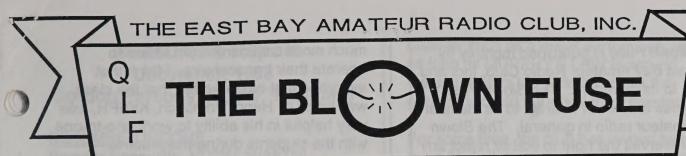
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#### **CLUB STATION W6CUS**

**VOLUME LII NUMBER 2** 

FEBRUARY 1999



#### **EBARC Meeting**

February 12, 1999 7:30 p.m.

Bob Uhrhammer, WB6VEX "More Stuff About Earthquakes"



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The Executive Board meets the first Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the W6CUS club station, 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond

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Ronald A. Smith, KE6RS 2643 Emma Dr. Pinole, CA 94564

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Deadline for Mar. issue: Tuesday, Feb. 23

[Articles can be submitted by "snail" mail, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to aa6xz@juno.com.]

## Message from the President John Wood, KF6HFA

Helio everyone. Here it is, February, and so much has happened to me, it seems that retirement is more work than working was.

The planning for Field Day is proceeding with the latest coup on the part of our new Field Day Chair, Ron Smith, KE6RS. He has contracted with The Salvation Army to operate the food concession for us. Since they would normally run such an operation in the case of a real emergency, this becomes good practice and training for them and a boon for us. Let's see what other innovations Ron provides for us as Field Day approaches. Good job, Ron. [Bob Blohm, KE6ZWO, contacted the Salvation Army, and Barbara Grazer, KD6OKJ agreed to coordinate. - Editor]

The HT Operation/Programming class has concluded with a group of hams having learned a new skill that will make them feel

much more confident when asked to operate their transceivers. I think that everyone that attended felt that the class was helpful. Henry Primbsch, KK6PH, was very helpful in his ability to work one-to-one with the students during the practice sessions so that everyone was able to find their way through the generally opaque instruction manuals provided by the HT manufacturers. It was a lot of fun being able to make a presentation on some subject about the HT's operation and have Henry provide a comment or a demonstration that made the point more clear. Thanks a bunch, Henry. It's a very pleasant feeling to know that you are always there for us when we need you. Finally, Robert Blohm, KE6ZWO, and his wife, Deane, were very gracious in opening their home to us for this class. Thanks, Bob and Deane.

Bye for now. I hope to see each of you at the next club meeting.

#### **EBARC Roster Update**

- NEW ADDRESS: Liz Charlton, KO6XP, and Jamie Wasson, AB6WJ, have moved to 104 Brandon Rd., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. Their new phone is 925-280-1671, and they'll still be active in EBARC.
- NEW PHONE NUMBER: Joseph Schmidt, KC6QZP, now has phone number 510-799-3110.
- NEW ADDRESS: Eric Borghesani, KE6YNI, now lives at 310 #4 Atlas Rd., Hercules, 94547. His new phone number is 510-741-1917.
- UPGRADE: Peter Millar, KF6BYN, just upgraded to Advanced. He'il be getting his new callsign soon.

## Treasurer's Report December, 1998 Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

#### DECEMBER INCOME

#### **DECEMBER DISBURSEMENTS**

Blown Fuse Printing & Postage	\$60.91
W6CUS ladder (R. Hall)	239.23
City of Albany (room rental)	40.00
Pacific Bell (W6CUS station)	17.31
Red Cross Luncheon (J. Wood)	31.55
Total Dec. Disbursements	.\$389.00

#### BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

Checking (General Fun	d)\$741.99
Savings (Station Fund*	

\*\$429.23 belongs to the General Fund.

Please pay your dues now if you haven't already. We are considerably below par for the renewal and dues payments.

Remember to feed the Kitty.

#### W6CUS Club Station Report Ralph Hall, W6EFD

Another significant step forward in emergency communications preparedness has been accomplished at the club station. In the past, we have relied on the availability of the Field Day generator, should commercial power fail during a

disaster such as a major earthquake. But, as long as MURPHY'S LAW is around, there is always the possibility that the generator could fail when most needed.

For some time, the club has owned two large 12-volt deep-cycle batteries (actually one 12-volt, and two 6-volt batteries connected in series) which are capable of several hours of operating the station radios. Until recently, we have had no real means of connecting the station radios to them. This is largely due to my reluctance to make up battery-power cables with non-standard wire. Our thanks to Jerry White (WB6IZE) for breaking up that "log jam".

As he has done so many times in the past, Jerry again came to the rescue. Jerry was able to find a source of the wire we need (after I had completely bombed out). The wire I have been holding out for is the 2-conductor red/black power cable found on Icom, and probably other, transceivers. Jerry purchased and donated a generous supply of the wire to the club.

Three power cables for battery power have been made up, complete with connectors compatible with all club radios. Two cables are for the VHF room: one for operating positions 1 through 4, and the other for 5 through 8 (with a short extension cable to reach position 8). A third cable is for the HF room, positions 9 and 10. Each cable is marked for where it is intended to be used. The cables are stored on a hook under the HF room workbench.

The batteries, because of their heavy weight, are mounted on casters, and are also stored under the workbench. They are kept "topped up" by voltage-monitoring, automatic chargers (also donated by Jerry). The intent is that, if needed, the batteries can be rolled to the doorway between the two radio rooms, but should remain in the

HF room (to avoid lifting the batteries up/down the step between the rooms). The cables will reach the batteries from there.

At the last Executive Committee meeting, the members went through a practice drill of rolling out the batteries, running out the power cables, disconnecting the radios from their normal power source, connecting them to the batteries (an "unplug / plug in" operation) and "firing up" the radios on battery power. The exercise went quite successfully and was a lot of fun. Sharon Primbsch (AA6XZ) turned out to be quite a master at it.

Two items remain to be resolved. One is what to do about lighting when running the station on battery power (it is quite dark in the station, even in daytime.) The committee evaluated chemically-activated "light sticks" which work quite well and last for hours, but emit limited light intensity. The ones we tried had been in my possession for more than 15 years. New ones available now may be much better. However, I tried several stores but could not find one that carries them. Also evaluated was a 12-volt neon light commonly used by auto mechanics when working on cars, etc. These are promising, but do put an undesired extra drain on the station batteries (slightly under 1/2 amp.) Propane-fueled lights were discussed, but they do put out a lot of heat, not so good on hot summer days / nights. John Billones (WD6GGC) is exploring some internal battery powered lights. More on this later.

The other unresolved item has to do with how to keep the station batteries charged if we have to operate on batteries for an extended length of time. At this time, it appears that some sort of "long battery jumper cables" connected to a car parked in the parking lot might be the answer. More on this later also.

## Treasurer's Report January, 1999 Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

JANUARY INCOME Regular Renewals: KB6LHR, WA6ZFV, WB6PIV, W6DOB, KD6FVI, W6KNO, AB6VB, K3MHD, KC6JXB, N6JGC,
Family Renewals:  KB6JZM/KD6BIE/KD6JCS,  N6MNL/KD6OKJ, AB6WF/KF6OBQ, KF6FU/Donna 96.00  Coffee Kitty: 10.50  Station Fund Can: 7.75  Raffle Ticket Sales: 17.00  Total January Income \$331.25
JANUARY DISBURSEMENTS  Blown Fuse Printing \$29.88  Blown Fuse Postage 36.16  City of Albany (room rental) 40.00  Refreshments (R. Fraatz) 16.54  W6CUS Ramp (R. Hall) 26.93  Pacific Bell (W6CUS station) 15.93  W6CUS Property Insurance 198.00  W6CUS General Liablity Insurance 300.00  Total Jan. Disbursements \$663.44
BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS Checking (General Fund)\$932.52 Savings (Station Fund*)\$923.81

### **English Ham Needs House**

\*\$429.23 belongs to the General Fund.

WANTED: 3+bedroom house to buy or rent by English ham. We are relocating to Walnut Creek in April/May 1999 and will be looking for a house within commuting distance (approx. 50 min.) I am a keen HF CW op, so prefer somewhere where I can put up aerials etc. Contact g4wuh@qsl.net.

## General Meeting Minutes January 8, 1999 "Midge" Wood, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by new President John Wood at 7:30 p.m. A total of 43 members signed in. The following announcements were made:

RACES training on net management will take place on Saturday morning, Jan. 23 in South County at the fire station in San Ramon. Call John Wood if you would like to go and need a ride.

Alan Eshleman is engaged in AARL contests on CW and DX. Contact Alan for more information. Also contact him if you have any ideas for programs you would like to see in 1999 as he is the V.P. in charge.

Ginny Sumerer has agreed to serve on the Executive Board as a member-at-large.

1999 Field Day: Ron Smith has agreed to be in charge. As yet no one has offered to coordinate the food. It was suggested that John contact the Salvation Army to assess their possible interest. Alan has agreed to be CW Chair but we need a volunteer for Single Side Band.

Ron is also serving as Historian and showed QSL cards from our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary special event.

Cheryl Johnson has resigned as Publicity Chair. We need a volunteer to replace her. Any takers?

We hope to have a Code class in Central County soon.

Henry Primbsch reports that he and Ivan Sturman are discussing with the Superintendent of Adult Education about setting up a class at Ohlone School.

Sharon Primbsch asks that you let her know if your roster information is out of date. She also confirmed that regular EBARC meetings on the second Friday of every month begin 7:30 P.M. at the Albany Senior Center, and will correct the time printed on the cover of the *Blown Fuse*.

Sharon also invites us to consider holding a crab feed for the purpose of fun and fundraising by late February, after which the season for crab will be over.

Gordon Parsons reports that lots of membership renewals are still outstanding!!!!! Please pay and notify Sharon of roster changes. Thank you.

Ivan Sturman reports that the radio room on the Victory Ship Hornet in Alameda is still active.

We received a letter from the Red Cross thanking us for our contribution toward relieving the suffering in Central America resulting from Hurricane Mitch.

The program was a hilarious video called "The Radio Ham" made by the BBC and borrowed for our enjoyment from the Stanford Lending Library by Alan Eshleman

#### CW Class Rescheduled

EBARC's class for 5 wpm and 13 wpm Morse Code, was scheduled for February and March, but several interested people are too busy to take the class at that time. This class has been cancelled because we need a minimum of 5 or 6 students. Contact Jamie Wasson, AB6WJ, if you're interested in a class at a later time (call 510-336-1120 or send e-mail to photo@dnai.com).

#### "The Base Station" is Closing

Art, AB6HB, owner of The Base Station, announces that his lease at 1839 East St. in Concord will not be renewed. He hopes to reopen this Spring (after a muchdeserved vacation) at a new location in Central Contra Costa County.

To clear the store, The Base Station is now holding a "Lost our Lease" sale. Everything in the store is being discounted 20-90%, on a "first-come, first-served" basis. If you are holding an unexpired gift certificate, it must be redeemed during this sale. The sale started January 20<sup>th</sup> and will end March 15<sup>th</sup>, or until the store runs out of merchandise, whichever comes first. Store hours for the clearance sale are Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For the latest details on the sale and reopening, call 925-685-7388 or look at on the Web at www.basestation.com.

Art says, "... I have always felt that we offered our customers personal, friendly service not offered elsewhere. I have always strived to provide our customers with a broad selection of merchandise, the highest quality technical support, and honest, accurate solutions. It has been a pleasure to have been of service for these past 23 years, and hope we have made life a little more enjoyable with Amateur Radio. I look forward to reopening in the Spring and to be of service again. Please extend my sincere thanks to your club members for their support."

EBARC wishes Art well and thanks him for his support via his advertising in the *Blown Fuse* and donations to club functions.

# PAST DUE DUE DUE

If the front of your *Blown Fuse*, looks like this, we think you haven't renewed, you will not be in the 1999 Roster, and this is your last issue of the *Blown Fuse*! Contact Treasurer Gordy Parsons at 785-4290 to avoid this tragedy! Dues are \$20 for individuals, and \$24 for families.

#### For Sale

- Yaesu FT-911 1.2 gHz HT with charger, FNB-17 battery, manual, Comet SH95 antenna/rubber duck, Comet CY-1205 mini-beam antenna. \$400 or best offer.
- Icom IC-W21AT 2M/440 HT with manual, rubber duck, Icom AC-79 desktop charger, BP-131 battery, W+W Associates battery pack 7.2v. 1500 mAH, Earbud speaker microphone. \$400 or best offer.

Contact Eric Borghesiani at 510-741-1917.

#### **Future Bay Area Events**

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, 510-447-3857, evenings.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions, first Sunday in every odd-numbered month (except holidays). The next exam is Mar. 7<sup>th</sup>. For more info, call 510-741-8227.

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$20 for individual membership and \$24 for a family membership. For information, e-mail to w6cus@juno.com, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC official, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at the Richmond Red Cross. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.630 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

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#### AMATEUR RADIO NETS

NET	DAYS	LOCAL TI	ME F	REQ, MHZ
EBARC Slow CW Net	Weds	2030		21.115
EBARC SSB Net	Weds	2100		28.395
No. Calif. VHF National Traffic System Net	Daily	2030		145.210
Women's Amateur Roundtable	Weds	2000	(PL 82.5)	145.110
West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net	Thurs	1845	(PL 82.5)	145.110
u u u u u	66	££		147.57s
Northern Alameda County ARES Net	Thurs	1915		147.48s
Contra Costa Communications Club Net	Thurs	1930	(PL 82.5)	145.110
Elmers Net	Thurs	2000	(PL 82.5)	145.110
Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net	Thurs	1930	(PL 77)	146.880
"Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net	Mo-Fr	0710	(PL 82.5)	145.110
Northern Calif. Net VHF Session	Daily	1930		145.410
"Going Home Group"	Mo-Fr	1600	(PL 82.5)	145.110

ARES/RACES EC - West CoCoCo. Rich Parker KD6JCT home: 237-2777, beeper: 873-7363, cell phone: 499-4557. Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s.

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WOODBRIDGE, VA Near Washington D.C.) 4803 Build America Dr. 22191 (703) 643-1063 (800) 444-4799 Mike, KA3TMQ, Mgr. Exit 161, I-95, So. to US 1

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## Q L F

# THE BLOWN FUSE



**VOLUME LII NUMBER 3** 

**MARCH 1999** 



#### **EBARC Meeting**

March 12, 1999 7:30 p.m.

Bob Fabry, N6EK "Heard Island and Other DXpeditions"



The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave., (near Solano) Albany. The Executive Board meets the first Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the W6CUS club station, 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Post Office Box 1393
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The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. The Blown Fuse welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. The Blown Fuse reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of The Blown Fuse. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Apr. issue: Tuesday, Mar. 23

[Articles can be submitted by "snail" mail, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to aa6xz@juno.com.]

## Message from the President John Wood, KF6HFA

It's March already. Time is moving along at a rather fast pace from my perspective. Now that I'm retired, there are all these tasks around the house that have been neglected for so long, and they simply have to get done. I'm finding that there still isn't time to get everything done, and I can't imagine how I found time to work before.

I just acquired a new toy. I recently bought an Icom IC-PCR1000. This is a computer controlled receiver that tunes from 500 KHz to 1.3 GHz. It only takes up about 50 sq. in. of volume and with the software provided (and from 3rd party suppliers) some wonderful results can be achieved.

First, it's a normal communications receiver with all the receive modes available. Second, it is remote controlled scanner that can have a list of stations to scan of infinite length (well not really but it is limited by the

amount of disk space on your hard drive.) Finally, there is some 3rd party software that permits keeping a history of radio channel (frequency) usage. I plan to use this feature to determine the present simplex usage so that the Echo/Karo net can find a new frequency to move to. (The old one, 146.43s, has been used by the San Bruno Races organization for some time.) I want to find out when the various RACES / ARES / ACS nets for the Bay Area occur so if anyone has information about one, please let me know. (If there is interest, I can do a show-and-tell about the radio at some club meeting.)

Well, that's all for this month. See you at the meeting, I hope.

#### **EBARC Roster Update**

- NEW MEMBERS: Read Heath and Mirna Morales-Heath don't have their tickets yet. Read's address is 2712 Pine Ave., Richmond, CA 94806, e-mail is zipzenz@aol.com, and phone is 235-8125. Mirna's address is 8430 Buckingham Dr., El Cerrito, 94530. Read is an LVN interested in 2M/70cm emergency communications. Mirna is interested in 2M. Also members are their boys Alan and Donald.
- UPGRADE: Peter Millar's new (Advanced) callsign is KQ6ZL.
- UPGRADE & NEW E-MAIL: Peter Hoffman, W6DEI, has new address, w6dei@arrl.net, and has upgraded to General class.

#### A "Sweetheart" Among Us

Thanks to Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU, for bringing Valentine tulips to the last meeting

## Treasurer's Report February, 1998 Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

FEBRUARY INCOME Regular Renewals:N6SPY, KF6LGE, KE6EUA, WA6OUO, KC6ONS, KK6UZ, WI6O, WD6AKC, KC6JCQ, W6JRZ, AA6YE, K6SRZ, KC6QZP, and KD6JCT\$260.00 New Family Membership: Read, Mirna, Donald, & Alan Heath
FEBRUARY DISBURSEMENTS Blown Fuse Printing
BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS Checking (General Fund)\$1,031.93 Savings (Station Fund*)\$961.81

\*\$429.23 belongs to the General Fund.

When renewing your ARRL membership, be sure to do it through EBARC. We get a \$2 commission per renewal. Every little bit helps. If you haven't received your membership card yet, you'll get it in the mail next month (April).

#### General Meeting Minutes February 12, 1999 "Midge" Wood, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by John Wood, KF6HFA, at 7:30 p.m.

Ivan Sturman, WB6PIV, corrected last month's minutes, and reported about the "Red Oak Victory" ship that is being restored in Pt. Richmond. He asked if anyone was interested in working on the radio room as an EBARC project. Someone mentioned that the aircraft carrier "Hornet" in Alameda may have similar opportunities.

Jack Jackson, W6KNO, gave us more information about the "Red Oak Victory" ship, of which he is now the main radio operator. They are putting a club together, and we are all invited to lunch there (at \$9 each) at 11:30, March 6th. Please let the ship know in advance, by calling either 237-2933 or 524-8911. To reach the ship in Pt. Richmond, go through the tunnel, and continue to the end of Dornan Dr. Several of us plan to go. Call John Wood 234-0527 if you would like a ride (he'll coordinate).

Thanks to Ralph Hall, W6EFD, for building the wheelchair ramp between the two rooms at the club station. Much appreciated!

We expect to be offering a ham radio class through Richmond Adult Education. Also, Ivan has ordered a six-hour video course which can be borrowed from him soon.

Ivan Sturman put inexpensive CW practice key kits together. He sold two kits at \$10 each and received another \$22 in donations at the meeting. Proceeds pay for more kits for the Kensington after-school ham radio class. Ivan thanks the donors.

Vern Orme, AA6YE, is retiring as Social Chair. Thanks for all your loyal service, Vern. Now, do we have a volunteer to take on the job?

Roger Nelums, KE6SZG, will manage the W6CUS-1 packet station, with help from others. Thanks Roger.

Ron Smith, KE6RS, says Field Day will again be on the 4th full weekend in June at Cesar Chavez Park in Berkeley. It was suggested that we take a photograph of the event from the Lawrence Hall of Science to use for publicity. If you know of a spotting scope that we could borrow to take such a picture, contact Greg Small. KD6SXH. John Percival, WI60, will try a QRP station at Field Day this year.

Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, reports that a DX contest will take place the first weekend of March at the club station.

John Wood distributed a list of emergency frequencies (police, fire, etc.) from Rich Parker, KD6JCT. Call either one of them if you didn't get one.

While you're at it, perhaps you would consider volunteering to coordinate a special events station, or chair a fundraiser!

There was an enthusiastic response to Bob Blohm's question, "Can we have a class on packet?" We'll see.

Our speaker Bob Uhrhammer, WB6VEX, had a great deal of interesting information to impart on the subject of earthquakes in general and in the Bay Area in particular. Thank you, Alan and Bob.

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 for the scratcher raffle.

#### **ARRL DX Phone Contest**

If you're interested in working the 48-hour ARRL DX Phone (SSB) contest the weekend of March 5-7, contact Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, at 540-8790 or doctore@well.com. If there's enough interest, he'll coordinate a W6CUS effort at the club station. Alan says he'll start at 4:00 p.m. Friday, and continue through the EBARC Board meeting time. (He'll also be there at other hours.) He'll be happy to explain DX, contesting, and computer logging. He'll be the control operator, so you can operate even if you don't have a license! Bring your own boom mike and headset if you have them.

#### **Future Bay Area Events**

- Ohlone School Emergency Awareness Evening, Thursday March 18<sup>th</sup>, 7-9 p.m. at Ohlone School, Hercules. Coffee, desserts, Beanie Baby drawing. Call Frank Bianchi at 799-0889.
- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, 510-447-3857, evenings.
- Foothill Flea Market, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month, March through October, Foothill College, Los Altos Hills.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions, first Sunday in every odd-numbered month (except holidays). The next exam is Mar. 7<sup>th</sup>. For more info, call 510-741-8227.

The next best thing to keeping your batteries charged is always having a copy of the manual for your handi-talkie handy

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Roger Nelums, KE6SZG, Digital and RFI Committee Chair 222-36	
Ron Smith KE6RS, Field Day Chair / Historian724-50	
Ginny Summerer KF6HEX, Member-at-Large	
Robin Fraatz KE6MRH, Member-at-Large524-07	
John Billones WD6GGC, Member-at-Large	
Gerry White, WB6IZE, Member-at-Large531-86	39

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#### **CLUB STATION W6CUS**

**VOLUME LII NUMBER 4** 

**APRIL 1999** 



#### **EBARC Meeting**

April 9, 1999 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Dan Werthimer
"The Search for Signals from
Extraterrestrial Civilizations"



The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave., (near Solano) Albany.

The Executive Board meets the first Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the W6CUS club station, 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Post Office Box 1393
El Cerrito, CA 94530





FIRST CLASS MAIL



Ronald A. Smith, KE6RS 2643 Emma Dr. Pinole, CA 94564

POSTMASTER: Address Correction Requested

The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. The Blown Fuse welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. The Blown Fuse reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of The Blown Fuse. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Apr. issue: Saturday, Apr. 24

[Articles can be submitted by "snail" mail, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to aa6xz@juno.com.]

## FCC and ARRL Licensing Update

After many months of discussion, FCC Commissioner A. Loof and ARRL President F. Lirpa announced a compromise agreement on a new Amateur Radio licensing structure. New Class D licensees need no CW exam (currently Technicians); Class C licensees need 5 wpm CW (currently Novice, Technician Plus, and General); Class B licensees need 71/2 wpm (currently Advanced); and Class A licensees need 12 wpm (currently Extra). To compensate for the degradation in CW skill required, all new written tests will now have a section on computer theory and Boolean algebra. Questions in the new question pools relating to vacuum tubes will be replaced with questions about analog and digital integrated circuits. In addition, Class D has been expanded to include previously-unlicensed Citizens Band operators, who will receive the same 2meter privileges as current Technicians.

To preserve the dwindling supply of call signs, CBers will retain their "handles", but must register them with the FCC to use the 2-meter Amateur band (duplicate handles are okay). To compensate current Extra class licensees, Commissioner Loof and President Lirpa also agreed that the FCC would refund any money that current Extra licensees may have spent on audio code practice tapes for speeds 13 wpm and higher. This historic agreement is know as the Loof Lirpa Compromise, and it will take effect on April 1, 2000. For details, see http://www.aprilfool.com.

#### Message from the President John Wood, KF6HFA

Hello members and friends of EBARC. Midge and I have just returned from a week's visit to Tucson where we visited friends and relatives. It was a nice trip, but I'm glad to get home again.

As some of you learned at the March meeting, we have changed the way the club telephone works. It seemed that because the answering machine was not being listened to on a regular basis, some change was needed. So I decided to have the outgoing message direct the caller to call my phone so that we could be a bit more responsive to calls. So far, I have had two calls from people wishing information about the club, so it seems that it was a good idea.

The club's packet station still needs a trustee (Sysop). I am very concerned that the station is not being managed properly because of this lack, and the thought occurs to me that we may have to take it off the air rather than allow it to be used improperly or let it become a nuisance. I have been reading a book published by the

Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR) club about the management of a packet station. It seems that what is needed is a person with good computer understanding and an interest in digital communications. If anyone has any ideas about a solution to this problem, please call me.

Finally, EBARC will be teaching another Technician Class. It starts on April 12th and is being hosted by the West Contra Costa Adult Education Department of West Contra Costa United School District. The class will run for 12 weeks, with the last class being a formal ARRL test session. If anyone knows of anyone that wants to take the course, contact Jim Trombley at 510.215.4666 to get a course catalog. There is a mistake in the catalog. It says that the cost is \$70. It is actually free to anyone who wants to take the course. The book, *Now You're Talking*, will be sold by the adult school and will cost about \$20.

The reason that the adult school is interested is because of the interest in the school system to have a licensed ham at each school in case of an emergency. They are making a special effort to encourage teachers and other employees of the school district to take the training. I'm hoping for a good turnout. Special thanks go to Bob Bloom, KE6ZWO, for making the initial contacts and getting the district interested. [The class meets 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. every Monday - Editor]

I hope to see you all at the April meeting.

## "Is Anybody Out There?" Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ

For our April EBARC meeting, we are honored to have Dr. Dan Werthimer speak to us about "The Search for Signals From Extraterrestrial Civilizations".

Dr. Werthimer is director of the SERENDIP SETI program at the Space Sciences Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley. He was associate professor in the engineering and physics departments of San Francisco State University from 1977 to 1982 and has been a visiting professor at Beijing Normal University, the University of St. Charles in Marseille, and Eotyos University in Budapest. He also conducts annual science education workshops with UNESCO and the International Center for Theoretical Physics which has brought him to teach at universities in Peru, Egypt, Ghana, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Uganda and Kenya.

One of the most likely means of detecting advanced civilizations is from their radio emissions. Civilizations may be attempting to contact us by directing intentional radio beacons at our solar system, or we may be able to detect unintentional radio leakage from their transmitters. In his talk, Werthimer will discuss UC Berkeley's SETI program at the world's largest radio telescope. He will also discuss optical seti, plans for the one hectare radio telescope, and the SETI@home program.

The SETI@home project uses the desktop computers of hundreds of thousands of volunteers as the analysis engine for a sky survey. Participants download a screensaver type program from the Web, and data from the Arecibo radio telescope is distributed via the Internet to this program. The program analyzes the data, searching for narrow-band continuous and pulsed signals. Volunteers have the small but captivating possibility that their computer will detect the first signal from a civilization beyond Earth.

For more information see the site http://seti.ssl.berkeley.edu.

## Treasurer's Report March, 1998 Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

Regular Renewals: AI3X, KF6HEH.	.\$40.00
Family Renewals: WA6CCF/Michael	el.24.00
Coffee Kitty Can	
Station Fund Can	9.75
Raffle Ticket Sales	20.00
Total March Income	\$105.75

#### MARCH DISBURSEMENTS

Blown Fuse Printing	.\$31.18
Blown Fuse Postage	39.27
Club Roster Printing	42.57
Refreshments (R. Fraatz)	15.74
City of Albany (room rental)	40.00
W6CUS phone (Pacific Bell)	15.68
Total Mar. Disbursements	\$184.44

#### BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS

Checking (General Fund)	\$939.17
Savings (Station Fund*)	\$975.88

\*\$429.23 belongs to the General Fund.

We need ideas for fundraising. If you have an idea or two, bring it to a member of the Executive Committee to consider. The club needs to find new ways to increase our treasury to meet our expenses for the coming year.

## Red Oak Victory Ham Club Charles "Jack" Jackson, W6KNO

[Below are the minutes of the first ever meeting of the Red Oak Victory's ham radio club. For more information, or to join, contact Jack at 510-524-8911 – Editor]

March 6, 1999, Point Richmond, California, aboard the SS "Red Oak Victory" (restoration in process). Fourteen of us

enjoyed the catered lunch, and the shipboard tour guided by ROV Purser / Information Officer Roger Johnson. Next meeting will be Saturday 10 a.m. April 3, 1999, to discuss the shipboard station setup and procedure, obtaining / donating equipment, ratifying / amending bylaws, electing officers, etc. Nominations are now being accepted for elected positions. So far, the following members have tentatively agreed to run: Gary Elliott, Pres.; Tom Trishan, V.P.; Dave Jackson, Sec'y; Jack Jackson, Treas.; Verne Orme, Station Trustee. Further nominations will be accepted from the floor at the meeting.

#### **EBARC Roster Update**

- NEW E-MAIL & PHONE: Kham "Tom"
   Vilaikam, Al3X, has e-mail address
   ai3x@jps.net and phone 510-236-4430.
- NEW E-MAIL: Midge Wood's new email address is midge68@iname.com.

#### **Future Bay Area Events**

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, 510-447-3857, evenings.
- Foothill Flea Market, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month, March through October, Foothill College, Los Altos Hills.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions, first Sunday in every odd-numbered month (except holidays). The next exam is May 2<sup>nd</sup>. For more info, call 510-741-8227.

Note: The deadline for the May Blown Fuse is on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> (not Tuesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>)!

## General Meeting Minutes March 12, 1999 "Midge" Wood, KF6OGC, Secretary

John Wood called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Reports were heard as follows:

The message on the answerer at the club station has been altered to forward messages to John, since no one regularly monitors otherwise.

Minutes from last month were approved as read from *The Blown Fuse*.

Ivan Sturman reported that Richmond Adult Education has corrected their previous ham radio class announcement: it now reads that there is no charge for the class.

Gordy Parsons reported on the current financial status of the club. There are still some unpaid dues.

Next month John Wood promises to have name tags available for sale. In case you forget to wear your badge at the next meeting, you'll have the opportunity to buy a temporary one for a \$1 donation (you'll get one raffle ticket thrown in also).

Remember to write your congressperson in support of HR 783, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection bill.

Roger Nelums has resigned as digital chair. A replacement needed!

Cheryl Johnson is our new Social Committee Chair. Thank you, Cheryl.

Ron Smith reported on Field Day: Rich Parker will arrange for security and will also invite tables from other emergency groups. Signs for Chavez Park are still needed.

Robyn will handle publicity and wants to know if anyone has contacts with any scout troops. Please note that Robyn's generous offer does not include any other publicity—we still need a volunteer for Publicity Chair!!

Visitor Jim McWilliams, W6KNO, was introduced. He was a member 27 years ago! Congratulations, Jim!

Jack Jackson reported that I4 EBARC members attended the luncheon on the Red Oak Victory ship. Memberships are now being solicited for a ham radio station on the ship.

Alan Eshleman reported on a DX Convention to take place in July. He then intoduced our speaker for the evening, Robert Fabry from the No. Calif. DX station who talked about the statiion which he designed and which now has a third of members living outside the U.S. The IARU functions much like a UN for amateur radio and beacons broadcast every three minutes, carefully timed. Consult the Beacon Wizard website www.IARU.org to learn which beacon uses which frequency. You can also see www.ncdxf.org for more beacon information.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

#### Do You Have Back Issues? Ron Smith, KE6RS, Historian

Below is the list of all the *Blown Fuse* issues that have been found for the club's historical file so far. We are looking for anyone who might be able to provide the missing issues.

The name of the publication now know as The Blown Fuse was first, EBRC Newsletter, then EBARC Newsletter.

- 1964 Feb, May (with roster), Jun (copy of roster also in back of last 3-ring binder)
- 1969 Jun, Aug, Oct, Nov, \*Dec (\*First called *The Blown Fuse*)
- 1970 Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Sep, Oct, Dec
- 1971 Jan, Feb Apr, Jul, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec
- 1972 Jan, Mar, Apr
- 1973 Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Nov-Dec
- 1974 Jan, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Sep, Oct, Nov,
- 1975 Jan, Feb (with roster), Mar, Apr, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov
- 1976 Jan, Mar, Apr, Jun, Jul, Sep, Oct (with roster), Nov, Dec (copy of roster in back of last 3-ring binder)
- 1977 Have all
- 1978 Have Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Nov, Dec (copy of roster in back of last 3-ring binder)
- 1979 Have Jan, Feb, May, Jul, Sep, Oct Nov, Dec
- 1980 Have all (copy of roster in back of last 3-ring binder)
- 1981 Have Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Nov, Dec
- 1982 Have Feb, Apr, Jun, Sep, Nov
- 1983 Have Jan only
- 1984 Have all

- 1985 Have All (copy of roster in back of last 3-ring binder)
- 1986 Have all (roster behind Dec issue & in last 3-ring binder)
- 1987 Have all (2 complete sets) (roster in last 3-ring binder)
- 1988 Have all (2 complete sets) (roster in June & in last 3-ring binder)
- 1989 Have all (plus all but Dec of second set) (roster in May)
- 1990 Have all (no roster found)
- 1991 Have all (no roster found)
- 1992 Have all (no roster found)
- 1993 Have all (no roster found)
- 1994 Have NONE
- 1995 Have NONE (roster in back of last 3-ring binder)
- 1996 Have NONE (roster in back of last 3-ring binder)
- 1997 Have all except December (roster in back of last 3-ring binder)
- 1998 Have all (I will add 1998 roster when 1999 is issued)
- If you can provide a missing issue, please call me at 724-5099.
- In the November 1998 issue of QST on pp. 108-112 are general rules for ARRL contests, including Field Day. [Thanks to Graeme Welch, W6JRZ for this suggestion]

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$20 for individual membership and \$24 for a family membership. For information, e-mail to w6cus@juno.com, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC official, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at the Richmond Red Cross. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.630 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

### 1999 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

John Wood KF6HFA, President	.741-8227 .785-4290 .234-8919 .232-0727 .741-8227
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Digital and RFI Committee Chair Ron Smith KE6RS, Field Day Chair / Historian Ginny Summerer KF6HEX, Member-at-Large Robin Fraatz KE6MRH, Member-at-Large John Billones WD6GGC, Member-at-Large Gerry White, WB6IZE, Member-at-Large	724-5099 526-6827 524-0723 237-1272

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ARES/RACES EC - West CoCoCo. Rich Parker KD6JCT home: 237-2777, beeper: 873-7363, cell phone: 499-4557. Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s.

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(800) 854-6046 Mark, WI7YN, Mgr I-880 at 23rd Ave ramp

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Tom, KM6K, Mgr. Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa SUNNYVALE, CA

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#### IC-775/DSP HF/ Transceiver

- 200W HF Transceiver 101 memories
- · DSP built-in · Digital noise reduction
- Digital automatic notch Digital LPF and HPF
- · QSK, Digital CW filter · Built-in AC supply
- Twin PBT Dual watch

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DJ-S41T/DJ-S11T

- 440 riny Hi
- 340 mw
- 21 memories
- Uses 3 "AA" Batteries
- · Encode built-in
- · Pivot antenna · Less than 5" high

and 2 1/4" wide (DJ-S41T)

Call For Low Pricing!

(DJ-S41T shown)



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#### FT-1000MP HF Transceiver

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- Dual RX
- . Collins SSB filter built-in
- Call Now For Low Pricing!
- •100W. Power supply built-in

Q L F

# THE BLOWN FUSE



**VOLUME LII NUMBER 5** 

**MAY 1999** 



#### **EBARC Meeting**

May 14, 1999 7:30 p.m.

"Campbell Island DXpedition" videotape by participant Murray Woodfield, ZL1CN



The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave., (near Solano) Albany. The Executive Board meets the first Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the W6CUS club station, 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Post Office Box 1393
El Cerrito, CA 94530





FIRST CLASS MAIL



Ronald A. Smith, KEORS 2643 Emma Dr.

Pinole, CA 94564

POSTMASTER: Address Correction Requested

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Deadline for June issue: Tuesday, May 25

[Articles can be submitted by "snail" mail, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to aa6xz@juno.com.]

#### Message from the President John Wood, KF6HFA

I can't believe that it is almost May. Time really moves when one is retired. I don't know why I waited as long as I did.

The Red Cross, the organization which allows us to use portions of Annexes A and B for the club station, has notified us that we cannot make any more improvements or repairs without their express permission.

In investigating the situation, we find that the lease the Red Cross had with the City of Richmond expired some years ago, and the property is currently not leased by anyone. We have further found out that the Red Cross is opening discussions with the City of Richmond in order to negotiate a new 10-year lease. If they get it, they will do a major renovation to the property on MacDonald Ave.

While the Red Cross indicates that having a close relation with a ham club is in their strategic interest, the exact details are not forthcoming at this time. Obviously, they need to know what their relationship is with the City before they can make any arrangements with us.

So what to do? We need to make a decision for ourselves. We have had an initial conversation with the City Manager's office in Richmond, and we find that we could apply for a lease with the City directly rather than going through the Red Cross, but before we go any further with this issue we need to get direction from the membership.

As luck would have it, Midge and I will be absent for the next club meeting, but Alan will hold forth in my place. This is a very important topic, and I would like to have you consider attending the May monthly meeting to help us decide what to do.

## Campbell Island DXpedition Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ

For the program at our May EBARC meeting, we will view a "hot off the presses" videotape (possibly even the "public" version) of the recent Campbell Island DXpedition. Just before our May meeting, the Primbsches, (Henry, KK6PH, and Sharon, AA6XZ) will be hosting one of the New Zealand participants, Murray Woodfield, ZL1CN, and his YL Laurice, ZL1LG. Unfortunately, they will be heading for the Dayton Hamfest before our meeting. but the videotape will speak for them. Rumor has it that the island was occupied by seals that are "meaner than a junkyard dog". Perhaps we'll see more than just "wild hams" at play!

#### .General Meeting Minutes April 9, 1999 "Midge" Wood, KF6OGC, Secretary

John Wood called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. 42 members signed in. Reports were heard as follows:

John Wood asked that someone volunteer to head a committee for a fundraiser soon.

John Wood also described a commercial use (on a Russian satellite) of the amateur bands by the Swatch folks. If you're interested in protesting this action, contact John for more information.

Jan Kuhl, AC5RB, will donate a "Quillo" for the May meeting's raffle.

RACES members should respond to the recent letter from the Sheriff. If you have not received and responded to this letter, contact Rich Parker, or you will be dropped from the RACES rolls.

The Red Oak Victory Amateur Radio Club is getting underway. Tours of the Red Oak Victory ship are being offered to the public for \$3.00. On April 21<sup>st</sup>, there will be a trip to other mothball ships for acquiring spare parts. Contact "Jack" Jackson, W6KNO, at 524-8911 for more information on the ship and its ham club (or to volunteer for fixup).

Ivan Sturman, WB6PIV, announced a meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup> at the SW corner of El Cerrito Plaza to take junk out of the nearby creek. Ham communications volunteers are needed

Also on April 24<sup>th</sup> there will be a RACES training at the Pinole firehouse starting at 9:00 a.m.

Joe Lee, W6DOB, sells club badges for \$5.00. If you don't wear a badge to the meeting you can get a temporary badge for a \$1 donation, which also entitles you to an extra raffle ticket (assuming you're also buying raffle tickets).

Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, shared the club's collection of recent QSL cards.

Robin Fraatz, KE6MRH, announced that radio support is needed for "Fight MS Day" on April 18<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:30 a.m. at Crown Beach in Alameda. The walk ends with a free lunch at 12:00.

Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, has set April 24<sup>th</sup> as the earlier-than-usual deadline for the May issue of the *Blown Fuse*.

Gordy Parsons, NU6W, reported on the current status of the EBARC treasury.

Henry Primbsch, KK6PH, Ivan Sturman WB6PIV, and Chet Pike, AC6WF, will teach what you need to know to pass the novice-technician exam on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 9:30 at Adams Middle School. The class is limited to 25, and signup is at the Serra school on Ralston (Richmond Adult School). There is no charge for the class. If you want only to take the licensing exam you may do so by attending the l0th session.

Mike Camp, KI7FQ, has volunteered to be the packet chairperson. (Thank you, Mike!)

Ron Smith, K6RS, says we'll discuss final details for Field Day at the June club meeting.

Ron Smith also reports that he has collected most of the back issues of the *Blown Fuse*. Those that are still missing will be listed in the April issue.

Bob Blohm, KE6ZWO, reports that he is helping to set up a RACES ham station at the San Pablo police station. He asked for information about getting an inexpensive 10 amp power supply and other equipment.

Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, introduced the evening's speaker on the subject of SETI, a researcher from Space Sciences Lab at UC Berkeley named Dan Wertheimer. Very interesting! To get a copy of the SETI screensaver, see seti@ssl.berkeley.edu. Our thanks again go to Gerry White, WB6IZE, for the AV equipment.

The meeting was adjourned for the raffle near 9:30 p.m.

#### Bring your \$ to "Quillo" Raffle

Thanks go to Jan Kuhl, AC5RB, who has donated a "Quillo" to be sold by raffle at the May EBARC meeting. This Quillo is a combination quilt and pillow that has been handmade by Jan. Another like it was raffled at last year's EBARC and 4Cs picnic and earned \$200, split equally between the two clubs. Bring your greenbacks!!

# Grizzly Peak Century Bay-to-Breakers Boy Scout Walkathon Rich Parker, KD6JCT

We have several events which need ham radio volunteers. It's not too late to sign up for the Crizzly Peak Century bike ride on Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. You'd be helping with a "sag" wagon or at a rest stop.

On Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup> is the Bay-to-Breakers foot race in San Francisco. Volunteers need to be in S.F. 5 a.m. through 2 p.m. Contact me for a copy of the form that has to be submitted before race day.

We may also be asked to help with the Boy Scout Walkathon again this year. I have no official information yet, but it may be in the El Cerrito hills on Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>.

For more information, call me at 237-2777 or send e-mail to rparker688@aol.com.

#### San Pablo Police & RACES

Bob Blohm, KE6ZWO, is leading the effort to set up a RACES ham station at the San Pablo police station. He has donated a Radio Shack HX 212 2-meter mobile rig. Read Heath has donated \$20, and Gerry White, WB6IZE donated an Astron 15 amp power supply. EBARC thanks all of you!

#### **EBARC Roster Update**

- NEW MEMBER: Gary A. Elliott, WA6KCP, has a General license. He can be found at 17070 Santa Fe St., Hayward CA 94541, 510-278-0546. He likes HF, especially working Novices. His other interests are photography, demolition, and salvage.
- NEW MEMBER: James D. McWilliams, K6LHP of 1331 Thousand Oaks Blvd., Albany, CA 94706 has a General license. His phone is 510-525-2887. He likes 40M CW, 10M SSB, old tube equipment, and QRP. Other hobbies are coin collecting, computers, and flying.

#### Back Issues Update Ron Smith, KE6RS, Historian

Last month I received a package from Bob Hughes, N6SPY, containing some of the missing *Blown Fuses*. I now have *all* of 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, and the missing December 1989 issue that completes the second set of 1989 issues. Also, Bob sent a December 1997 issue to replace the one that I lost from my personal set. On behalf of all EBARC members, I give Bob a hearty "thank you."

It looks like it helps to advertise, so below is the list of issues the club is still missing. If you can provide a missing issue, please call me at 724-5099.

#### EBRC Newsletter, or EBARC Newsletter

1964: Jan, Mar, Apr, Jul-Dec 1965-1968: all are missing

#### The Blown Fuse

1970: Aug

1971: Mar, May, Jun, Aug

1972: Feb, May through Dec

1973: Jan, Feb, Mar, Sep

1974: Feb, Aug

1975: May, Dec

1976: Feb, May, Aug

1978: Aug, Sep, Oct

1979: Mar, Apr, Jun, Aug

1981: Sep, Oct

1982: Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Oct

1983: Feb through Dec

#### **Future Bay Area Events**

 Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, 510-447-3857, evenings.

- Foothill Flea Market, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month, March through October, Foothill College, Los Altos Hills.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions, first Sunday in every odd-numbered month (except holidays). The next exam is May 2<sup>nd</sup>. For more info, call 510-741-8227 or 510-841-7233. There will be no test on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### Fleet "Raid" for ROVARC

[Below are (edited) comments by "Jack" Jackson, W6KNO, about the 4/21/99 visit to the Mothball Fleet to get spare parts for the Red Oak Victory ship – Editor]

There were six of us; Gary, Tom, John, Ivan, Jack, and Spotty. We didn't collect much of what we had listed, but got started anyway and made it back safely. We looked on the Earlham for Tom Tique's phone gear; nothing found in the aft shop area. We got most of the electric eye installation from the PanAmerican. Radio room spares & supplies, and Dave's documents, will probably transport best right in their respective filing cabients. The rest of the Earlham's FT-106 unit should disassemble readily with the proper tools. On our next trip we'll call first to have a "skip" placed on the stern of the Earlham for heavy lifting by the cranebarge. Back at the ROV, since we can't store or work on things in the radio room, we'll use the floor of the warehouse nearest the bow of the ship. We are looking into possiblity of putting a portable office-type trailer from GSA in the warehouse.

[The list of officers, omitted this moth to save space, will return in June – Editor]

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**CLUB STATION W6CUS** 

**VOLUME LII NUMBER 6** 

**JUNE 1999** 



#### **EBARC Meeting**

June 11, 1999 7:30 p.m.

"1999 Field Day Planning" EBARC Members, led by Ron Smith, KE6RS



The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave., (near Solano) Albany. The Executive Board meets the first Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the W6CUS club station, 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

Post Office Box 1393 El Cerrito, CA 94530





FIRST CLASS MAIL



Ronald A. Smith, KE6RS 2643 Emma Dr. Pinole, CA 94564

POSTMASTER: Address Correction Requested

The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. The Blown Fuse welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. The Blown Fuse reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of The Blown Fuse. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for July issue: Tuesday, Jun. 22

[Articles can be submitted by "snail" mail, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to aa6xz@juno.com.]

#### Message from the President John Wood, KF6HFA

This month is time for Field Day again. I'm looking forward to another fun time in Cesar Chavez Park. I will, as usual, set up the VHF tent and will be running 2 Meter FM and SSB (Weak Signal) and perhaps 70 cm SSB as well. I thought that I would also bring my Icom IC-PCR1000 wide band receiver so that I can scan the FM simplex frequencies to see where the action is. Maybe we can get more contacts this year.

I again apologize for missing the meeting last month. I understand that the discussion of the lease with Red Cross went well and that it is the intention of the club to work toward a resolution of an acceptable relationship with the Red Cross. That is my major goal of this year. This sort of thing moves rather slowly, so don't expect anything immediately. I'll keep you posted.

Finally, I must also apologize for having to be gone for the June meeting as well. Midge and I are travelling to Oregon to celebrate my daughter's graduation from Oregon, State Corvallis (PhD in Human Development). The ceremony is on June 13th.

Be sure to attend the club meeting to get the latest information about the Field Day plans. Then I'll see you on the 25th and we'll party!

# General Meeting Minutes May 14, 1999 Ginny Summerer, KF6HEX, Acting Secretary

Alan Eshleman, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. Attendance was 35 people.

Minutes of the April 1999 meeting were approved as printed in the *Blown Fuse*.

Treasurer's Report: by Gordy Parsons.
Our financial status requires fundraising.
He said our annual IRS tax return has been filed.

<u>Club Station</u>: Ralph Hall said we'll wait until after Field Day to schedule a work party to repair the ramp and work on the tower.

Education: Henry Primbsch and Ivan Sturman reported that the last class session on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1999 will be an ARRL-VE test session. Attrition in the class is about 10-20%. Ivan asked for a count of people interested in a General upgrade class.

Tinkers' Workshop: Alan and Ivan discussed this organization on 1336 Channing Way in Berkeley. You can use the tools here with supervision. A city grant supports the effort, but donations are accepted.

"Quillo" Raffle: Jan Kuhl, AC6RB, donated a pillow/quilt to be raffled at Field Day. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5 (see Ginny Summerer). \$44 has been raised so far.

Fundraising Ideas: A discussion was led by Alan. Suggestions are: 1) Move to a less expensive spot for meetings (not well received, we're getting a discount and Albany is centrally located); 2) Raffle off a piece of expensive electronics equipment (members would have to sell tickets outside EBARC); 3) Plan now for a crab feed early next year (well received, labor intensive); 4) Pass the hat; 5) Sell T-shirts (Alan will investigate); 6) \$5 dues increase (well received, Alan will investigate); 7) Solano Stroll participation (money & publicity) Patrick Mitchell, AB6WF will check first with NALCO / ARES

Field Day: Chair Ron Smith, KE6RS, reported that the next EBARC meeting will be a discussion of the final arrangements. Publicity Chair Robin Fraatz, KE6MRH, reported on her interest in getting Scouts involved (including certificates for on-air contacts). Robin also suggested that we sell sodas, etc. (dog biscuits for dogowners?) as a fundraiser, but it's not clear whether we'd need a permit. According to a message from Jamie Wasson, AB6WJ, we have the permit to use Cesar Chavez Park. Ginny, KF6HEX, will be the Novice tent chair.

3200 MacDonald Status: The Executive Board is seeking instructions from the membership about how to proceed

regarding the use of the 3200 MacDonald facility for the W6CUS club station. Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, led a discussion of the history and our options [see the following section for the information presented at the meeting - Editor]. Additional details are: The 1994 verbal agreement with the Red Cross for W6CUS's station expansion is not legally binding. We occupy Annexes A & B on an unofficial basis (no lease or sublease). Gordy says we have one million dollars of liability insurance. The Red Cross now keeps Annexes A & B in repair. It's not known if this "demised" property is slated to be condemned soon. We currently have a memo of understanding (MOU) with the local Red Cross organization. It was agreed by the membership that options #3 and #4 (leasing or subletting) were the most viable, and that John Wood (hopefully with Harry Bier) would represent EBARC in initial discussions with the appropriate person in the local Red Cross. Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU, (a volunteer for both EBARC and the Red Cross), will find the appropriate person from the Red Cross for this discussion. The members wish the Board to bring any potential issues regarding expenditures back to the membership as a whole.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m. to view the videotape of the ZL9CI DXpedition.

Two antennas got married.

The wedding was awful, but the reception was terrific!

## Discussion of 3200 MacDonald Ave. and its **W6CUS Club Station**

[Below is the first of two overhead transparencies that were discussed at the 5/14/99 EBARC general meeting]

## THE FACTS (as best we know them)

- 1. Changes to club station were made to demised property by verbal agreement with prior Red Cross leadership and no building permit
- 2. The current Red Cross leadership has notified us that we are not to make further physical changes to the club station without their prior approval. They are also nervous about non-Red Cross equipment on "their" premises
- 3. We have been advised (legally) that an MOU is worth only the paper on which it's written
- 4. Leadership in Red Cross and in EBARC changes frequently, and there's no current, legally binding agreement between us
- 5. The 3200 MacDonald property is not currently leased by anyone
- 6. The Red Cross may be pursuing a long term lease on 3200 MacDonald with plans to renovate buildings on the site
- 7. The City of Richmond (property owner) is very appreciative of both the Red Cross and EBARC and what each can do for the community, and would probably lease to either or both of us

[Late breaking news: the property is part of a redevelopment district - Editor]

[Below is the second of two overhead transparencies as discussed at the 5/14/99 EBARC general meeting. The options agreed to by the membership for the first negotiations with Red Cross are in bold]

#### OUR OPTIONS

- 1. Do nothing and hope we won't have to look for another club station site
- 2. Negotiate a new MOU with the Red Cross\*
- 3. Sublet club station portion of Annexes A & B from the Red Cross when/if the Red Cross gets a new lease\*
- 4. Lease Annexes A & B from Richmond and sublet non-club portions to the Red Cross\*
- 5. Lease all of Annexes A & B from Richmond and do NOT sublet to Red Cross
- 6. Look for another site where we can have a club station without sharing a facility with the Red Cross
- 7. Abandon the idea of maintaining a club station
- \*EBARC can house its equipment and make appropriate physical changes to the club station without prior Red Cross approval, and both Red Cross and EBARC share bathroom and classroom facilities

## **EBARC Roster Update**

KREBU

NEW MEMBER: Eric Reed, KF6WF0 has a General ticket. He lives at 188 Rolph Park Dr., Crockett, 94525. His phone is 510-787-4715, and his e-mail address is ericreed@ol.com. He's an ARRI member.

Bring your buck\$ to Cesar Chavez Park, Berkeley on Field Day June 25-27th for the "Quillo" Raffle

# Treasurer's Report April, 1999 Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

APRIL INCOIVIE	
New Members: WA6KCP, K6LHP	\$40.00
Coffee Kitty Can	17.50
Station Fund Can	11.25
Badge Sales	7.00
Raffle Ticket Sales	30.00
Total April Income	105.75
APRIL DISBURSEMENTS	

AFRIL DISDONSLIVE	
Blown Fuse Printing	\$38.81
Blown Fuse Postage	33.33
Refreshments (R. Fraatz)	11.38
City of Albany (room rental)	40.00
W6CUS phone (Pacific Bell)	
Total April Disbursements	\$139.46

## BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS Checking (General Fund) ......\$864.21 Savings (Station Fund\*) .....\$1,017.13

\*\$429.23 belongs to the General Fund.

We are looking for new ideas for fundraising. The Executive Committee would like to hear from you if you know of a good way to improve our treasury.

## Treasurer's Report May, 1999 Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

MAY INCOME	
New Member: KF6WFO	\$20.00
ARRL Renewal: K3MHD	
Station Fund Can	
Coffee Kitty Can	
Total May Income	\$89.10
•	

#### MAY DISBURSEMENTS

Blown Fuse Postage	. \$36.30
Blown Fuse Printing	30.50
Refreshments (R. Fraatz)	13.46
City of Albany (room rental)	
W6CUS phone (Pacific Bell)	19.56
ARRL Renewal: K3MHD	
Total May Disbursements	\$171.82

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS
Checking (General Fund)\$778.05
Savings (Station Fund*) \$1,020.57

\*\$429.23 belongs to the General Fund.

Remember to renew your ARRL membership through EBARC. We get a \$2 commission for each renewal. Remember to feed the kitty!

## **Future Bay Area Events**

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, 510-447-3857, evenings.
- Foothill Flea Market, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month, March through October, Foothill College, Los Altos Hills.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions, first Sunday in every odd-numbered month (except holidays). The next exam is Sep. 5<sup>th</sup>. For more info, call 510-741-8227 or 510-841-7233.

## Looking Back Ron Smith, KE6RS, Historian

Below is the first two of three articles on RFI that were published in the April, May, and June, 1990 issues of the Blown Fuse. [slightly edited for length – Editor]

## RFI - How To Deal With Your Neighbor by Bill Walton, KJ6EO

#### PART ONE: COOPERATION

The most important step to take in dealing with an RFI problem is to cooperate and be courteous with your neighbor. Every neighbor is different. Some are extremely angry about the interference, and others are very cooperative. The cooperative neighbor usually can be dealt with easily, but it's the angry, yelling neighbor who is the hardest to deal with.

Over the years, it seems that most of my RFI problems have aroused the worst neighbors. I have been yelled at, had my life threatened, and even had my personal property damaged. After thinking about the problem for a while, I decided that it was time to out-think these nasty neighbors and maneuver them intelligently so that they would be willing to cooperate with me in resolving the matter.

Usually when one of these nasty neighbors comes over, he has had a terrible day. He decides to retreat to his last place of peace; TV, stereo, phone, or other home entertainment device, ... BUT NO... Instead he has a front row seat in your ham shack, which just burns him up to the max. The voice rises, the feet stomp, and there is a loud knock upon your door. As the door opens you hear, "Your #e!&~\*! radio is interfering with my TV (stereo, phone etc.)!" This moment is where you begin to control the situation. Never argue, as you will lose control of the situation and the cure. The response that has worked the best for me is. "OK sorry, I did not know that my ham radio was interfering with your equipment. I will stop transmitting and come over to see you tomorrow so we can discuss the matter." Usually, after your neighbor cools

off he will feel like a jerk for yelling at you, and he'll apologize.

#### PART TWO: EDUCATION

The only thing that your neighbor probably knows about ham radio is that he is receiving it over his home entertainment devices. Casually begin to talk to your neighbor about ham radio. Starting with public service usually gets his attention. Explain how hams have saved many lives and assisted with communications in times of disasters all over the world. Explain that ham radio was created to have a resource of trained radio operators ready to assist in these times of need. Let him know that if disaster occurred where you live, you would be able to get information through when all other communications are down.

Another important step is to tell your neighbor how hams have to study in order to get their licenses. A short talk about the written tests, and the code tests will most likely impress him and convince him that you know what you're talking about.

It is now time to explain why some devices will receive RFI and why some will not. Tell your neighbor that most electronic home entertainment devices are not properly filtered against RFI due to lack of concern by the electronic manufacturers who make them.

Explain that for *pennies* they could have prevented the whole problem by including a few capacitors and chokes that would have RFI-proofed their products. Now it's time to tell your neighbor that you know how to most likely resolve the problem with a few simple devices.

[PART 3, DEVICE REPAIR, will be printed, space permitting, in a future issue – Editor]

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$20 for individual membership and \$24 for a family membership. For information, e-mail to w6cus@juno.com, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC official, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at the Richmond Red Cross. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.630 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

## 1999 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

John Wood KF6HFA, President  Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, 1st VP - Program Chair  Mike Camp KI7FQ, 2nd VP - Hospitality Chair  Sharon Primbsch, 3rd VP - Membership / Blown Fuse Editor  Gordon Parsons NU6W, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair.  "Midge" Wood, KF60GC, Secretary  Ralph Hall W6EFD, W6CUS trustee / Club Station Chair  Henry Primbsch KK6PH, Education Chair  Cheryl Johnson, KF6HEN, Social Committee Chair	.741-8227 .785-4290 .234-8919 .232-0727 .741-8227 .222-9315
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(800) 854-6046 Ken, K1ZKM, Mgr. So, from Hwy, 101

NEW CASTLE, DE Near Philadelphia) 1509 N. Dupont Hwy., 19720 302) 322-7092

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PUNTLAND, ON 11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy. 97223 (503) 598-0555

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- 100W 6 Meters
- 20W 2 Meters
- · Slots for two optional filters

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#### IC-775/DSP HF/ Transceiver

- 200W HF Transceiver 101 memories
- DSP built-in Digital noise reduction
- · Digital automatic notch · Digital LPF and HPF
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- · Twin PBT · Dual watch

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- 340 mw
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(DJ-S41T shown)



#### DX-70T HF Transceiver

- 100W 160-10 Mtrs 10W 6M, Gencov. Rx
- Full QSK, 100 Mems. Compact, Remotable
- Dual VFO. 12VDC 6.2 lbs.

100W/6M DX-70TH Now Available!

## YAES





Rapid Deliveries From The Store Nearest To You!



2M/440 Sub-Mini HT

- 290 Memory Channels
- .5W output
- Receives 76-999mHz plus AM BCB (Cell Band Blocked)

· Lithium Ion Battery **Call Now For** Your Low Price!



## FT-50RD

2M/440mHz Compact HT

- . DVR, Decode, Paging Built-in
- · Alpha numeric display
- · Wide Band receive
- · Battery Saver 112 Memories
- · HiSpeed scanning **Call For** Your Low

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#### FT-1000MP HF Transceiver

- · Enhanced Digital Signal Processing Dual RX
- · Collins SSB filter built-in
- •100W. Power supply built-in





**VOLUME LII NUMBER 7** 

**JULY 1999** 



## **EBARC Meeting**

July 9, 1999 7:30 p.m.

Cliff Warrick
Emergency Services Manager
For Contra Costa County



The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave., (near Solano) Albany.

The Executive Board meets the first Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the W6CUS club station, 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Post Office Box 1393
El Cerrito, CA 94530





FIRST CLASS MAIL



Ronald A. Smith, KE6RS 2643 Emma Dr. Pinole, CA 94564

POSTMASTER: Address Correction Requested

The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. The Blown Fuse welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. The Blown Fuse reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of The Blown Fuse. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Aug. issue: Tuesday, Jul. 27

[Articles can be submitted by "snail" mail, by dialing in to the editor's computer, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to aa6xz@juno.com.]

## Message from the President John Wood, KF6HFA

By the time that you read this, Field Day '99 will be history. I don't know what wonderful things will happen yet because it hasn't happened yet. I do know that it will be fun and those of us that participate will have a good time working the bands, eating and having good fellowship. I hope that everyone will have a worthwhile experience.

Midge and I had a wonderful trip. We got to see my daughter walk across the stage and collect her diploma. It is truly a moment to savor when the little girl that was once so tiny is now a grown woman and is making a difference in the world. I'm a very proud father.

I was happy to hear that the Tech class that was held at the West Contra County Adult School was a huge success.

Congratulations to all the hams that were involved in the teaching and in the testing. I have gotten very good comments from the Adult School management.

There is no new news from me (at this writing) regarding the relationship with Red Cross. I'm planning to have lunch with the person responsible for all the Red Cross buildings in the Bay Area. Hopefully, this will result in a better understanding of how the process will unfold. I have contacted him to set up a meeting but he is busy until the early weeks of July so I will not be able to discuss anything of substance at the meeting.

Well, that's it for this month. I hope to see you all at the next meeting.

## W6CUS Club Station Report Ralph Hall, W6EFD

A work party at the club station will be held on Saturday, July 17, 1999. Projects will include antenna work, entrance door repair, painting the ramp, and laying the crank-up tower over for minor modifications. As usual, lunch will be provided.

PS: Trailer Court Bob: tie a string around your finger!!!!

## July 4<sup>th</sup> on Red Oak Victory

For \$15 a person (sent to P.O. Box 1267, Richmond CA 94802) you can have a BBQ and watch the fireworks July 4<sup>th</sup> from the deck of the Red Oak Victory. For details, (or perhaps "last minute" registration) contact "Jack" Jackson at 524-8911.

## . Treasurer's Report June, 1999 Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

HINE INCOME

JUNE INCOME	
New Member: KF6WHN	\$20.00
Station Fund Can	
Coffee Kitty Can	
Total June Income	\$36.00
JUNE DISBURSEMENTS	
Blown Fuse Printing	\$45.46
Blown Fuse Postage	33.28
W6CUS Materials (R. Hall)	96.12
Refreshments (R. Fraatz)	10.97
W6CUS phone (Pacific Bell)	15.80

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS
Checking (General Fund)\$679.34
Savings (Station Fund*)\$913.65

City of Albany (room rental).....40.00

Total June Disbursements......\$241.63

\*\$429.23 belongs to the General Fund.

If you participated in the "Quillo" raffle on Field Day you made the club treasury grow. Thanks to all.

# General Meeting Minutes June 11, 1999 Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ Acting Secretary

Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

Minutes of the June 1999 general meeting were approved as printed in the *Blown Fuse*.

We need someone to volunteer for Hospitality/Social Chair.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u> for May was read by Gordy Parsons, NU6W.

Fundraising: Alan says that T-shirts will be available for sale at Field Day. The issue of raising dues has been postponed until the July general meeting. Patrick Mitchell, AB6WF, says that NALCO/ARES has no problem with EBARC having a booth (for publicity and fundraising) at this year's Solano Stroll. Ron Smith, KE6RS, moved that the EBARC Board be authorized to secure a booth at the Solano Stroll. The motion was seconded by Bob Uhrhammer, WB6VEX, and it passed. We'll reserve a spot now. Rich Parker has tables, chairs, and a tent available.

3200 MacDonald Status: Sharon
Primbsch, AA6XZ, reports that EBARC
President John Wood will have a lunch
soon with Joe Lund of the San Francisco
Red Cross to discuss that organization's
plans for the 3200 MacDonald site. The
site is part of a redevelopment area.
Sharon will attend the public meeting about
this on June 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in the Richmond
City Council Chambers, to learn how
redevelopment would affect us, if at all.

Club Station: Ralph Hall, W6EFD, needs 2-3 volunteers at 9:30 a.m. Wed., June 16<sup>th</sup> to complete an emergency repair to the rotting ramp into the club station. There will still be a work party for other tasks after Field Day. Ralph asked people to hoard compression type "egg" insulators, as they seem to be scarce these days.

Education: Henry Primbsch, KK6PH, says that the last class session on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1999 will be an ARRL-VE test session. Ivan Sturman, WB6PIV, says the course evaluations by students was very positive. Two students have already passed tests.

"Quillo" Raffle: We'll also sell tickets outside EBARC for Jan Kuhl's, donated pillow/quilt (to be raffled at Field Day). Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5 (see Ginny Summerer). \$83 has been raised so far.

ARES/RACES: Rich Parker, KD6JCT. reports 1) there's a plan to have all the OES offices in the county open this New Year's Eve. He invites RACES members to participate. 2) There will be a fire watch July 4th (and maybe the 3rd) in parts of Richmond, El Cerrito, and parts of San Pablo. Fire captains wants ham volunteers to observe from about 5 locations. 3) New ARES/RACES Ids are still not yet available. If you returned the Sheriff's questionnaire, your existing ID card is still valid. 4) The next ARES/RACES training session will be in September. 5) Remember to check in to the Thursday evening net at 6:45 p.m. local time. Use the 145.11 repeater. An alternate repeater is 145.490. Also use 147.57 MHz simplex.

EBARC Angels: Mike Camp, KI7FQ, and Robin Fraatz, KE6MRH each received a letter of thanks from Ohlone School. They donated one Alinco DJ-S11 Mini Power Transceiver to the school.

<u>Field Day</u>: Chair Ron Smith, KE6RS, led the discussion of final preparations for Field Day '99.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

## **Future Bay Area Events**

 Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, 510-447-3857, evenings.

- Foothill Flea Market, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month, March through October, Foothill College, Los Altos Hills.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions, first Sunday in every odd-numbered month (except holidays). The next exam is Sep. 5<sup>th</sup>. For more info, call 510-741-8227 or 510-841-7233.

## **EBARC Roster Update**

- NEW MEMBER: Stephen L. Adams Sr., KF6WNH, is a Technician. He lives at 2856 Lincoln Ave., Richmond, 94804. His phone is 236-9770, and e-mail is sadams0584@aol.com. He's interested in ARRL and ARES/RACES. Welcome!
- NEW ADDRESS: John Percival, WI6O, has moved to 8878-1/2 Roseland Ave., Moorpark CA 93021. His new phone is 805-517-1302.

## Ham Bestsellers

- "The Key to 80 Meter DX'ing" by Moe Watts
- "The Key to Winning Contests" by Bea N. Young"
- "Three Tubes Do Run Cooler" by Iona Alpha
- "Improving Your Ground System" by Ray D. All
- "This is With the Processor In" by Emma Louder
- "A Common Problem For Homebrew Amp Builders" – by U. Seymour Black
- "Reducing Noise on the Low Bands by Buzz N. Krackle

[Lynn E. Orr, Radio Sporting Magazine]

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$20 for individual membership and \$24 for a family membership. For information, e-mail to w6cus@juno.com, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC official, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at the Richmond Red Cross. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.630 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

## 1999 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

John Wood KF6HFA, President  Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, 1st VP - Program Chair  Mike Camp KI7FQ, 2nd VP - Hospitality Chair  Sharon Primbsch, 3rd VP - Membership / Blown Fuse Editor  Gordon Parsons NU6W, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair  "Midge" Wood, KF60GC, Secretary  Ralph Hall W6EFD, W6CUS trustee / Club Station Chair  Henry Primbsch KK6PH, Education Chair  Social Committee Chair	. 524-0723 . 741-8227 . 785-4290 . 234-8919 . 232-0727 . 741-8227
Publicity Chair	.724-0533
Mike Camp KI7FQ, Digital Committee Chair	.524-0723
Ron Smith KE6RS, Field Day Chair / Historian	
Ginny Summerer KF6HEX, Member-at-Large	. 526-6827
Robin Fraatz KE6MRH, Member-at-Large	
John Billones WD6GGC, Member-at-Large	
Gerry White, WB6IZE, Member-at-Large	531-8639

## AMATEUR RADIO NETS

NET EBARC Slow CW Net EBARC SSB Net No. Calif. VHF National Traffic System Net Women's Amateur Roundtable West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net	DAYS Weds Weds Daily Weds Thurs	2030 2100 2030 2030 2000 (PL 82 1845 (PL 82	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Northern Alameda County ARES Net Contra Costa Communications Club Net Elmers Net Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net "Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net Northern Calif. Net VHF Session "Going Home Group"	Thurs Thurs Thurs Thurs Mo-Fr Daily Mo-Fr	1915 1930 (PL 82 2000 (PL 82 1930 (PL 72 0710 (PL 82 1930 1600 (PL 82	147.48s 2.5) 145.110 2.5) 145.110 7) 146.880 2.5) 145.110 145.410

ARES/RACES EC - West CoCoCo. Rich Parker KD6JCT home: 237-2777, beeper: 873-7363, cell phone: 499-4557. Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s.

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BURBANK, CA 2492 W. Victory Bl., 91506 (818) 842-1786 (800) 854-6046

Mary, K6VIV, Mgr. Victory Blvd. at Buena Vista 1 mi. west 1-5

DAKLAND, CA 2210 Livingston St., 94606 (510) 534-5757 (800) 854-6046 Mark, WI7YN, Mor.

I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp

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Tom KM6K Mar. Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa

SUNNYVALE, CA 510 Lawrence Exp. #102 94086 (408) 736-9496 (800) 854-6046 Ken. K1ZKM, Mar.

So. from Hwy. 101

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from Hwy. 5 & 217 DENVER, CO 8400 E. Iliff Ave. #9, 80231 (303) 745-7373 (800) 444-9476 Joe, KDØGA, Mgr.

PHOENIX, AZ 1939 W. Dunlap Ave., 85021 (602) 242-3515

(800) 444-9476 Gary, N7GJ, Mgr. 1 mi, east of I-17

ATLANTA, GA 6071 Buford Hwy., 30340 770) 263-0700 (800) 444-7927 Phil, N4DRO, Mgr. Doraville, 1 mi. no. of I-285

WOODBRIDGE, VA (Near Washington D.C.) 14803 Build America Dr. 22191 (703) 643-1063

(800) 444-4799 Mike, KA3TMQ, Mgr. Exit 161, I-95, Sq. to US 1

SALEM, NH (Near Boston) 224 N. Broadway, 03079 (603) 898-3750 (800) 444-0047

Chuck, KM4NZ, Mgr. sales@hamradio.com Exit 1, 1-93 28 mi. No. of Boston

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- · SSB, CW, AM, FM • 12V Gen, Cov. RX, 6.4 lbs., 7.16 x 2.4 x 9.32"
- . 105db dynamic range, 100 Mems.
- · Opt. ext. ant. tuners available (TS-50S only)

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#### TH-G71A 2m/440

- 2m/440 Dual Band HT
- 200 Mems PC Programmable
- 6w 2m, 5.5w UHF @13.8 VDC
- · Alphanumeric Display • CTCSS Built It • Backlit Keypad

**Call For Low Intro. Price!** 



#### TM-V7A 2M/440Mhz

- 50W/35W 280 Mems Visual Scan
- · Alpha Numeric · Enc/Dec & Duplexer Built-in
- Computer Programmable 9600 Baud Ready
   Cool-blue Reversible LCD Backlit Mic

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- 100W 6 Meters
- 20W 2 Meters
- · Slots for two optional filters

#### Call For Low Pricing!



#### IC-775/DSP HF/ Transceiver

- 200W HF Transceiver 101 memories
- · DSP built-in · Digital noise reduction
- Digital automatic notch Digital LPF and HPF · QSK, Digital CW filter · Built-in AC supply
- Twin PBT Dual watch

**Call Now For The Ultimate Radio!** 



DJ-S41T/DJ-S11T 2Mtr Tiny HT 440 Tiny HT

- 340 mw
- 21 memories Uses 3 "AA" Batteries
- Encode built-in
- · Pivot antenna • Less than 5" high

and 2 1/4" wide (DJ-S41T) **Call For Low Pricing!** 

(DJ-S41T shown)



#### DX-70T HF Transceiver

- 100W 160-10 Mtrs 10W 6M, Gencov. Rx
- Full QSK, 100 Mems. Compact, Remotable
- Dual VFO, 12VDC 6.2 lbs.

100W/6M DX-70TH Now Available!

## YAESU

## VX-1R

2M/440 Sub-Mini HT

- · 290 Memory Channels .5W output

200

- · Receives 76-999mHz plus AM BCB (Cell Band Blocked)
- · Lithium Ion Battery Call Now For **Your Low Price!**



## FT-50RD

- 2M/440mHz Compact HT
- DVR, Decode, Paging Built-in
- · Alpha numeric display
- · Wide Band receive
- Battery Saver • 112 Memories
- · Mil-Spec · HiSpeed scanning

**Call For** Your Low



#### FT-1000MP HF Transceiver

- · Enhanced Digital Signal Processing
- · Dual RX
- · Collins SSB filter built-in
- •100W. Power supply built-in



**VOLUME LII NUMBER 8** 

AUGUST 1999



## **EBARC Meeting**

August 13, 1999 7:30 p.m.

U.S. Coast Guard Representative "How the Coast Guard Uses Radio"



The East Bay Amateu. Stub meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave., (near Solano) Albany. The Executive Board meets the first Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the W6CUS club station, 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Post Office Box 1393 El Cerrito, CA 94530





FIRST CLASS MAIL



Ronald A. Smith, KE6RS 2643 Emma Dr. Pinole, CA 94564

POSTMASTER: Address Correction Requested

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Deadline for Aug. issue: Tuesday, Aug. 24

[Articles can be submitted by "snail" mail, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail to aa6xz@juno.com.]

## Message from the President John Wood, KF6HFA

i hope that everyone had a good Fourth of July. Midge and I certainly did. Our daughter (actually Midge's) and her fiance were visiting from New York, and we spent the evening of the 4<sup>th</sup> on the Red Oak Victory to have a BBQ and watch the fireworks in San Francisco, Marin, Oakland, Berkeley and Alameda. It was quite a show. The fund-raiser for the Richmond Museum was quite a success.

The Executive Board met in special session on July 21<sup>st</sup> to consider the question of having a booth for the Solano Stroll this year. Our vice-president, Alan, K6SRZ, has agreed to coordinate the event, and he has some great fund-raising ideas for it. He will provide more information at the next general meeting. The Stroll will occur Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, so save the date.

I still haven't heard from the Red Cross regarding the status of the club station. I'm beginning to wonder if they are avoiding us. I hope not. This note is being written on Midge's computer because mine is disassembled due to interior damage caused by a leak in our roof in May, which is finally getting attention from the contractor. The house has been a mess for over a week and I haven't been able to use my computer during that time. I have a distinct case of computer withdrawal syndrome. The contractor promises that today (July 28) they will finish and we will get our house back. Then starts the process of ridding our living space of fine white sheetrock dust. We can hardly wait.

Finally, I have just learned that the FCC has just approved a process for allowing the US amateur community to use their licenses overseas (in certain countries). It is all spelled out on the FCC web page (www.fcc.gov) and involves carrying certain documents with you while you are traveling. If you are in a country for less than a couple of months there is no application needed. You can operate as you would here, except that you must follow the band allotments allowed by the host country. It is the easiest way, at present, for a Tech+ to get General privileges.

Well, that's it for this month. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting.

## **Possible Morse Code Class**

If you'd like to attend a class to learn CW or increase your CW speed, contact Jamie Wasson, AB6WJ, at 925-280-1671. If 6-10 people are interested, a class will be held.

## Field Day 1999 a Success! Ron Smith, KE6RS

There were 54 people involved with the EBARC 1999 Field Day, and they all worked together to make it happen. We had fun and told jokes as we set up antennas and tents, strung the coax and checked everything out. The Salvation Army Canteen truck arrived (thank you Bob Garfat, KF6LGE), and we knew then that we would be well fed. We thank Audrey (KF6MVH) and Fred (KC6VLL) Nieman for almost all the meals.

When the contest started, the transmitters fairly burned up the air, and we came away with a total of 1253 contacts. Our score, before adding the bonus points, is 3888. The ARRL will add the bonus points based on our claims and supporting documents.

We had Kit Chantarotwong's famous chicken soup in the wee nours of Sunday morning, and we enjoyed the quiche for breakfast Sunday morning, provided by Carmen Watson.

The event wouldn't have been complete without entertainment. By that I mean Barry, Al6M, and his juggling of rubber balls, and Indian clubs during daylight hours and flaming torches in the middle of the night.

I want to thank everyone who was there, and say to those who were unable to attend "Don't miss next year, it will be even better."

Field Day quote by Peter Hoffman, W6DEI: "There's nothing like the sound of birds and Morse code."

## Treasurer's Report July, 1999 Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

\$20.00
, and
60.00
L). 40.00
139.00
201.00
12.50
18.50
14.00
<u>4.00</u>
. \$509.00
\$27.39
34.55
40.00
19.33
61.61
<u>79.75</u>

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS
Checking (General Fund)............\$899.11
Savings (Station Fund\*)...........\$940.15

Total July Disbursements...... \$262.73

\*\$429.23 belongs to the General Fund.

We had a very successful "quillo" sale. Thank you, Jan Kuhl! The "quillo" is very practical and beautiful, and let's do it again. Remember to feed the Kitty!

EBARC is sponsoring a fund-raising and educational booth at the Solano Stroll, Sunday Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, at 540-8790 if you can help. We especially need donations of raffle-able prizes (preferably radio-related but suitable for non-hams).

# General Meeting Minutes July 9, 1999 "Midge" Wood, KF6OGC, Secretary

President John Wood, KF6HFA, called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. New and prospective members were introduced and welcomed.

Minutes of the June 1999 general meeting were approved as printed in the *Blown Fuse*.

Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, reported on the Richmond Redevelopment meeting she attended. She also checked on the zoning for the 3200 MacDonald property and learned that neither zoning nor redevelopment plans prevent a ham station at the W6CUS club station site.

Ralph Hall, W6EFD, reported that everything is okay at the club station. On Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> there will be a work party starting at 9-10 a.m., which will include lunch. New members were encouraged to attend to see the station. New plywood with preservative paint has been installed on the outside ramp, hopefully preventing further problems if it rains. Club members thanked Ralph for his dedication and hard work

Gordy Parsons, NU6W, gave the Treasurer's report.

Ron Smith, KE6RS, reported on Field Day. It was a big success. The number of contacts were up from last year (total 1256), even though attendance was down. Richmond, Berkeley, and the Board of Supervisors each issued proclamations, thanks to publicity by Robin Fraatz, KE6MRH. Thanks to Ron and everyone else who helped. Congratulations to Ginny

Summerer, KF6HEX, who won the "quillo" donated by Jan Kuhl, AC5RB. John Wood is holding a brown, Ralph Lauren jacket, size M, that someone left at Field Day. Please check to see if you are missing a jacket!

Robin reported on the publicity for Field Day. She has a list of phone numbers and other information ready to pass on to the next publicity chair. Robin can also take orders for emergency kits costing \$22.00 or \$12.25. The proceeds from these excellent kits will benefit Stepping Stones, an organization that helps developmentally disabled adults. Please contact Robin if you are interested.

John Wood encourages everyone to attend MDARC's Pacificon October 15-17. For advance tickets, contact Sam Watson.

EBARC has received a response from Congressman George Miller in support of the House resolution re ham radio; of which he is now a co-sponsor. Barbara Lee has not indicated support.

Joe Lee, W6DOB, is taking orders for magnetic signs for your car that say "Amateur Radio Communication". If he can send in one large order we can reduce costs. It was moved, seconded, and passed that we buy a set of six for \$51.00 plus shipping. John Wood suggested that Rich Parker, KD6JCT, take charge of the project so they can be used for ARES / RACES and public service events.

There is a new list server for Contra Costa County RACES. To subscribe, send e-mail to races-request@wcrklaw.com, putting the single word *subscribe* in the body of the e-mail. To send e-mail to be broadcast by the RACES list server, send the message to races@wcrklaw.com.

Ron Smith announced that he has various items including transistors available.

John Wood plans to sell 200 raffle tickets @\$5.00 each at various ham club meetings. This raffle of a handheld radio will benefit the EBARC treasury.

Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, will take charge of our participation in the Solano Stroll in September.

Sharon Primbsch made a motion to increase the club dues for next year as follows: \$25.00 per year per individual and \$30 per year per family. The motion was seconded by Bob Uhrhammer, and passed.

Our speaker for the evening was Cliff Warrick, Emergency Services Manager for Contra Costa County. His lecture was both educational and very entertaining. He spoke at length about the problems of lack of motivation and his particular concern about community apathy, considering the large number of buildings located near the fault line. He told us that ten years after the Loma Prieta earthquake, 60 % of small businesses had never reopened. He refers to the local area as "God's theme park for disaster".

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Silent Key
Graeme P. Welch, W6JRZ
by Woody Mertens, N6LFW

Dr. Graeme P. Welch, W6JRZ, Berkeley, California died July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1999 at age 81. He is survived by Pat, his wife of 54 years, and by their three daughters and two sons.

Dr. Welch, Graeme, was a biophysicist at Donner Laboratory and Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, where he and his group engaged in studied of accelerated heavy ions at the Berkeley Heavy Ion Linear Accelerator (HILAC) and at the 88-inch cyclotron. He developed physical methodologies for use in cancer research.

Graeme's love of radio technology started at age 9 when he put his first tube set together at the kitchen table by drilling holes in his mother's glass custard cups to use as insulators. His ability to concoct functional antennas and instrumentation from odd and discarded items continued throughout his life.

Graeme was first licensed at age 14. He advanced to Extra class in 1995, choosing to keep his W6JRZ call. He was active in Boy Scouts, often demonstrating ham radio to Scout units and to schools. He was a long time member of the East Bay Amateur Radio Club and a charter member of the Northern Alameda County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (NALCO ARES), which has emergency communications "memoranda of understanding" with the cities of Albany and Berkeley, and with the University of California, Berkeley. He was an active participant, especially during the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake and the 1991 Oakland Hills fire.

Graeme had the knack of gathering all sorts of materials, from whatever source and in an innovative fashion, to assemble equipment to make things happen. For example, he had a long and profound interest in battery and solar technology. At one point, he purchased an electric motorcycle from Roland Armer after Roland completed a replacement. Graeme frequently drove this machine around Berkeley. Occasionally Graeme was chided

by his colleagues for never owing a new car. He preferred to tinker with older models, including a 1935 6-cylinder Dodge, "Loosey", whose broken piston put a hole in the cylinder block. This problem was solved by converting the Dodge to a 3-cylinder model (it got 27 mpg). In 1949, he backed "Loosey" up San Francisco's Telegraph Hill for lack of power in forward gear!

For the 2 years prior to his death, Graeme received weekly transfusions, sometimes with 2 units of blood each time. If you wish to honor Graeme, the family suggests charitable donations to the blood bank, in gratitude for this life-saving blood. Donations in memory of Graeme Welch can be sent to; American Red Cross Northern California Blood Services (formerly the Alameda / Contra Costa Blood Bank), 6230 Claremont Ave., Oakland, CA 94618.

## **EBARC Roster Update**

- NEW MEMBER: Elliott Medrich, W6VFU, has a General license. He lives at 121 Mandalay Rd., Oakland, CA 94618. His phone is 510-595-4121.
- NEW MEMBER: Clinton Schwarz lives at 461 Haight Ave., Alameda CA 94501. He is not yet a ham.
- NEW MEMBERS: Craig and Maria Hauger, 101 Schooner Ct., Richmond CA 94804. They are not yet hams. Their phone is 510-412-2238.
- NEW MEMBER: Kathryn Levenson, KF6WXE, has a Tech license. She lives at 1825 San Lorenzo Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707. Her e-mail is klevenson@aol.com, and her phone is 510-525-0652. She likes RACES and DX. Non-ham interest include photography and outdoor sports.

## **New Member Needs Help**

New member Kathryn Levenson, KF6WXE, would like to know her late father's call sign. His name was Lyman Nickel, and he died in 1966. If you can find his call in an old call book, call Kathryn at 510-525-0652.

## **Future Bay Area Events**

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, 510-447-3857, evenings.
- Foothill Flea Market, 2nd Saturday of each month, March through October, Foothill College, Los Altos Hills.
- Pacificon '99, October 15-17, Concord CA. Call Sam Watson, N6VIF, for advance tickets 510-223-6408.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions, first Sunday in every odd-numbered month (except holidays). The next exam is Sep. 5th. For more info, call 510-741-8227 or 510-841-7233.



WI6O, KE6NMJ, and W6DEI in SSB Tent

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$20 for individual membership and \$24 for a family membership. For information, e-mail to w6cus@juno.com, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC official, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at the Richmond Red Cross. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.630 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

#### 1999 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

John Wood KF6HFA, President  Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, 1st VP - Program Chair  Mike Camp KI7FQ, 2nd VP - Hospitality Chair  Sharon Primbsch, 3rd VP - Membership / Blown Fuse Editor  Gordon Parsons NU6W, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair.	.524-0723 .741-8227 .785-4290
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Ron Smith KE6RS, Field Day Chair / Historian	.724-5099
Ginny Summerer KF6HEX, Member-at-Large	. 526-6827
Robin Fraatz KE6MRH, Member-at-Large	.524-0723
John Billones WD6GGC, Member-at-Large	
Gerry White, WB6IZE, Member-at-Large	

#### AMATEUR RADIO NETS

NET	DAYS	LOCAL TIME	FREQ, MHZ
EBARC Slow CW Net	Weds	2030	21.115
EBARC SSB Net	Weds	2100	28.395
No. Calif. VHF National Traffic System Net	Daily	2030	145.210
Women's Amateur Roundtable	Weds	2000 (PL 8	2.5) 145.110
West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net	Thurs	1845 (PL 8	2.5) 145.110
tt tt tt	66	66	147.57s
Northern Alameda County ARES Net	Thurs	1915	147.48s
Contra Costa Communications Club Net	Thurs	1930 (PL 8	2.5) 145.110
Elmers Net	Thurs	2000 (PL 8	2.5) 145.110
Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net	Thurs	1930 (PL 7	7) 146.880
"Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net	Mo-Fr	0710 (PL 8	2.5) 145.110
Northern Calif. Net VHF Session	Daily	1930	145.410
"Going Home Group"	Mo-Fr	1600 (PL 8	2.5) 145.110

ARES/RACES EC - West CoCoCo. Rich Parker KD6JCT home: 237-2777, beeper: 873-7363, cell phone: 499-4557. Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s.

Look for the HRG Home Page on the World Wide Web http://www.hamradio.com

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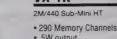


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**VOLUME LII NUMBER 9** 

SEPTEMBER 1999



## **EBARC Meeting**

September 10, 1999 7:30 p.m.

U.S. Coast Guard Representative "How the Coast Guard Uses Radio" (rescheduled)



The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave., (near Solano) Albany.

The Executive Board meets the first Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the W6CUS club station, 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Post Office Box 1393 El Cerrito, CA 94530





FIRST CLASS MAIL



Ronald A. Smith, KE6RS 2643 Emma Dr. Pinole, CA 94564

POSTMASTER: Address Correction Requested

The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. The Blown Fuse welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. The Blown Fuse reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of The Blown Fuse. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Aug. issue: Tuesday, Sep. 21

[Articles can be submitted by "snail" mail, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail (no attachments) to aa6xz@juno.com.]

## Message from the President John Wood, KF6HFA

As I sit here before my computer again to compose this message, I am cognizant of the fact that I must again take the computer apart so that the room furniture can be moved to shampoo the carpets. This will be the final operation of the home repair that started in May with the roof leaking in the master bedroom and dining room. Thank God that it is almost finished.

The ticket sales continue to move slowly (it seems). I went to the MDARC meeting last Friday and only sold 7. I was expecting a bunch more. Oh well...

For those of you that don't know about the EBARC fundraiser that I'm conducting, here it is. For a donation of \$5, a person has a chance to win one of the new Icom IC-T81A HTs. It is a four band HT, having 6 Meter, 2 Meter, 70 Cm and 23 Cm coverage. In

addition it also covers the FM broadcast band (receive only).

I will be offering the tickets at as many club meetings as I can make over the next few months, so that by Christmas we can hold the drawing to announce the winner. So far I've been to CCCC, CCRA, MDARC, and will be going to the Delta Club (Pittsburg) this Thursday. If anyone knows of other clubs in the area (particularly repeater clubs) let me know so that I can attend a meeting and hopefully sell a few tickets.

One of the ways that other clubs can use our fundraiser for themselves is that 30% of each donation will be sent to the club of the ticket holder's choice.

Finally, I spoke with Fred Neiman about the picnic being held on Sunday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> at Miller-Knox Park again. It is being sponsored by CCCC and we have been invited to attend again. EBARC will share in the expenses and effort of the picnic, as before, so everyone who is interested in good fellowship should attend. Spouses and kids are especially welcome. We will look forward to seeing you there. I'll be selling tickets and will have the HT there for anyone to play with. The HT can be programmed via a computer, and I'll have my laptop present to show how that is done as well.

If you want to purchase a ticket for a chance to win the 4-band HT, but cannot attend the EBARC meeting or picnic, ask someone to buy a ticket for you before they are all gone. This is a great chance to get this great radio and also to support your club financially.

See you all at the next meeting.

# Treasurer's Report August, 1999 Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

AUGUST INCOME	
New Member: KF6WXD	\$20.00
Raffle Ticket Sales	34.00
Station Fund Can	9.00
Coffee Kitty Can	<u>13.45</u>
Total August Income	\$76.45

AUGUST DISBURSEMENTS	
Blown Fuse Printing	\$37.89
Blown Fuse Postage	
City of Albany (room rental)	
W6CUS phone (Pacific Bell)	18.42
Tower cable (R. Hall)	
Total August Disbursements.	\$174.34

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS
Checking (General Fund)\$813.75
Savings (Station Fund*)\$884.62

\*\$429.23 belongs to the General Fund.

Are you ready for the new millennium? Are you ready for Y2K? Are you ready for the dues increase? Yes, we will start collecting dues for the year 2000 in September. The end of the year seems a distance yet, but many people forget to pay their dues at the Christmas party, so we start early. Dues for next year are \$25 for individual membership and \$30 for a family membership. Remember to feed the Kitty!

General Meeting Minutes
August 13, 1999
"Midge" Wood, KF6OGC, Secretary

President John Wood, KF6HFA, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes of the July 1999 general meeting were approved as printed in the Blown Fuse

Gordy Parson's, NU6W, read the July treasurer's report.

Ralph Hall, W6EFD, reported that there was low turnout at last month's club station work party. Many thanks to Molly Hall, who provided tons of food. The club station's battery connectors are now compliant with the RACES connectors. This will help make club and personal equipment more interchangeable in emergencies.

Two visitors introduced themselves, one from Hawaii and one from Salt Lake City. We have a new member, Diane Istvanek, who volunteered to seek a donation from Radio Shack to be raffled at the Solano Stroll.

We will have a booth at the Solano Stroll in Albany/Berkeley on the Sunday following Labor Day (Sept. 12th), and volunteers are needed both before and during the event. Please contact Alan Eshleman at 540-8790 if you can help. We need to create signs, flyers, etc. We also need more donations of items to raffle. We may be able to raffle some equipment donated to us by Margery Davidson of Pinole on behalf of her late husband. Joe Lee, W6DOB, will send National Traffic Service messages for interested visitors. Many thanks to John Billiones for the banner he made for the booth. It looks great.

John Wood says there's no new information from the Red Cross about our club station's status. The Red Cross may stay at the current 3200 Macdonald Ave. location, or they may move to an EOC building that the City of Richmond will get. John thinks it would be best for EBARC to

not move the club station. Possibly we could lease Annexes A & B directly from the City of Richmond. He will also inquire what liabilities we would incur, should we decide to lease.

The Salvation Army has invited EBARC to have our monthly general meetings at their location on Appian Way in El Sobrante. The advantage to us is free rent, as opposed to the \$40 per month we are now paying. The disadvantage is the more remote location, which might discourage attendance by members from Berkeley, Oakland, etc. John Wood will find out if we can exercise the option at a later date.

John Wood showed us the 4-band ICOM handheld radio he raffling as an EBARC fund-raiser. For a \$5 donation, you can acquire one of 100 tickets for the drawing, which will be held no later than the EBARC December meeting. For non-EBARC clubs, 30% of the \$5 ticket donation goes to the club designated by the donor.

John Wood will get more details on the picnic being given by the 4C's club on Sept. 19. We co-sponsored this picnic last year, and will probably do it again this year. The nearby Red Oak Victory ship will be open for tours on this day, also.

The evening concluded with an interesting and hilariously entertaining lecture and demonstration of what one can create with the findings in a "junk" box as shown by John Billiones, WD6GGC. Thanks John!

The meeting was adjourned near 9:30 p.m.

Renew early for EBARC's Y2K!

Membership fees are now \$25 for individual and \$30 for family

## Registering TINs in the FCC's Universal Licensing System

Under the FCC's new Universal Licensing System (ULS), each ham must register his/her Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) and associate it with his/her name. address, and call sign. For individuals, the TIN is the Social Security Number (SSN). The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 requires the FCC to collect TIN information to help increase collection of delinquent government debts. The TIN will be the FCC's unique identifier for renewal or modifications of licenses, but it will be kept confidential. At the time you register, vou'll be given a Licensee ID. You are now required to provide either your SSN or your Licensee ID at the time you take an exam to upgrade your ham license.

You can register either by paper or online. Online, go to www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls, click on "TIN/Call Sign Registration", and follow directions. With a password you supply, you'll be able to update information electronically. To file a paper application, use FCC Form 606 (TIN Registration Form). Request this form from the FCC's Forms Distribution Center at 1-800-418-FORM. The form will be mailed to you.

For more information, see the web site, call FCC Technical Support at (202) 414-1250, or e-mail questions to ulscomm@fcc.gov.

If you received this copy of the *Blown Fuse* at the Solano Stroll, please accept EBARC's invitation to attend a meeting (see the front page)! If you'd like more information about the club, call our club's phone number, 510-233-7609. Find out how much fun it is to be a "ham"!

## **EBARC Roster Update**

 NEW MEMBER: Diane Istvanek, KF6WXD, has a Technician license. She lives at 1938 California St., Berkeley, 94703, and is an ARRL member. Her phone is 510-849-4618. She likes gardening and would like to become active in ARES/RACES.

## **Future Bay Area Events**

- EBARC information booth at the Solano Stroll, Sunday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>. Volunteer!
- 4Cs/EBARC Annual Picnic, Sunday Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>, Miller-Knox Regional Park, Richmond. Families welcome!
- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, 510-447-3857, evenings.
- Foothill Flea Market, 2nd Saturday of each month, March through October, Foothill College, Los Altos Hills.
- Pacificon '99, October 15-17, Concord CA. Call Sam Watson, N6VIF, for advance tickets 510-223-6408.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions, first Sunday in every odd-numbered month (except holidays). The next exam is Sep. 5th. For more info, call 510-741-8227 or 510-841-7233.

## Solano Stroll

EBARC is sponsoring a fund-raising and educational booth at the Solano Stroll, Sunday Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>. John Billiones, WD6GGC, has made a large banner to attract visitors. He has also agreed to bring some of his home brew equipment to show.

We'll have 2 meter and HF stations in operation, thanks to Henry Primbsch, KK6PH, Sam Watson, N6VIF, and others. We'll accept National Traffic Service messages from visitors, thanks to Joe Lee, W6DOB. The collection of QSL cards from our W6CUS club station will be there. We need volunteers to help us make displays of Field Day, etc. to show off "our stuff". We have received donations of family radios, earthquake preparedness kits, and other things to use for a drawing. Visitors (for a donation) will be able to deposit tickets in the box near any prize they choose. We especially need donations of additional prizes, preferably radio-related but suitable for non-hams. We also need folks to be at the booth as ambassadors. Please contact Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, at 540-8790 if you can help.

## 4Cs / EBARC Picnic

The merriment is set for Sunday, Sept. 19th, at Miller-Knox Park in Point Richmond. We'll gather starting at 11:30 a.m. and eat about 1 p.m. (but come near 9:00 a.m. if you want to help reserve tables and set up). There's no charge for the eats and merriment. We'll have the traditional 2M transmitter hunt, and other stuff. Bring your family and / or your "significant other". There's a nearby playground. Wise folks also bring a lawn chair, a floppy hat, sunglasses, and sunblock. For extra information, contact Fred Nieman, KC6VLL, at 223-1748. (He'd appreciate knowing how many people will be coming.) Talk-in is on the 145.110 MHz repeater.

[To save \$\$ for this issue, the list of Board members, nets, etc. is being omitted. It will return next month. - Editor]

Look for the HRO Home Page on the World Wide Web http://www.hamradio.com

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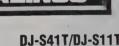


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## **CLUB STATION W6CUS**

**VOLUME LII NUMBER 10** 

OCTOBER1999



## **EBARC Meeting**

October 8, 1999 7:30 p.m.

U.S. Coast Guard Representative "How the Coast Guard Uses Radio" (re-rescheduled)



The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave., (near Solano) Albany. The Executive Board meets the first Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the W6CUS club station, 3200 Macdonald Ave., Richmond

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Post Office Box 1393
El Cerrito, CA 94530





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Ronald A. Smith, KE6RS 2643 Emma Dr. Pinole, CA 94564

POSTMASTER: Address Correction Requested

The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. The Blown Fuse welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. The Blown Fuse reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of The Blown Fuse. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Nov. issue: Tuesday, Oct. 26

[Articles can be submitted by "snail" mail, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail (no attachments) to aa6xz@juno.com.]

## Message from the President John Wood, KF6HFA

Where did the month go? it seems like about a week or two goes by and then it's time to write another of these letters. Time seems to go faster now that I'm retired.

A lot has happened this month but I'll get to that in a minute. I must first notice that it is time to start the process for finding EBARC officers once more. I'm not sure of the rules as spelled out in the by-laws but it seems that we have to start the process with the next meeting. As many of you know, Midge and I will be in NY for our daughter's wedding. It takes place on October 3rd and Midge's birthday party will be on October 8th. So we won't get back until after the club meeting.

With that said, I must now make an official announcement. I must first start by saying that I do not want to run for the office of club President next year. I've had a very

interesting year during which we have had a highly successful Field Day, we found out that the Solano Stroll is a wonderful way to do outreach to the community and the process of resolving our relationship with the Red Cross is still ongoing. I do admit that I've enjoyed to process of running the club, but I've also learned that the level of organization required is beyond my capability. So I've decided to provide my services to the club in a different way. My preference is to not hold an office but to make myself available to the President for some project that is needed. I would like to be the club's liaison to RACES, as that seems to be my favorite part of ham radio. In other words, I'm available for things to do but I don't want to have responsibility for the whole thing.

Therefore, the acting president of the meeting this month will appoint a search committee chairperson to fill the slots for the election. We will also have to have nominations as well in order to have them published before the November meeting where we will hold the election. So if you want to run for an office get yourself nominated at the next meeting.

I mentioned the Solano Stroll as being a success. It certainly was. We had a group of club members that set up an HF and a VHF station on Solano Avenue and spent several hours having conversations with the passers-by. I was amazed at the amount of interest shown by the public. John, WD6GGC, had a lot of interest in his homemade CW station. Children especially, were interested. At one point John noticed that his equipment had stopped working only to find out that someone had moved a tunable component and he had to realign the system before he got it working again. Sharon, AA6XZ, had a CW demonstration that also attracted a

lot of interest. She showed no fear in that she would ask people walking by their name and would then give it back to them in CW. Everyone in the tent was amazed that so many people were captivated by the suggestion that the mess of tones coming out of the speaker was in some way associated with their name. Anyway, this event was so successful that we should certainly do it again next year and plan to do the El Sobrante Stroll as well. Alan, K6SRZ, organized and ran the raffle at the Stroll but I haven't heard how well we did in that endeavor. I'm sure that he will let us know at the October meeting.

Speaking of the El Sobrante Stroll, a few of us were present as monitors at the street barricades and spent a leisurely afternoon watching the folks walking up and down San Pablo Dam Road. It was amazing to me that the city was able to get permission to blockade the street from 7 AM to 7 PM. There was a single lane down the middle of the street that was marked with cones and intended to be an emergency lane. The walkers were supposed to stay out of it but no one did. When the Emergency Vehicle drove through about 4 PM, they did it but people certainly took their time in getting out of the way. I would say that only about half of the possible spaces were taken by street vendors, so we should have no trouble getting a space next year. I highly recommend it.

There is no new news regarding the club station. I have had no communication with either the Red Cross or the City of Richmond. I didn't expect any either. It is my expectation that the process will take many more months, perhaps even a year or so because we are talking about negotiations between the City and the State of California for the Police building in Richmond. The last I heard was that they

were about a million dollars apart in their discussions, so unless something unexpected happens, it will be some time.

Finally, the fundraiser is going fairly well. I have only about 50 (of the original 200) tickets to sell. I've had a wonderful time visiting the various clubs in the area. I've visited CCCC, ROVARC, CCRA (in Concord), Delta (in Pittsburg), ORCA (in Oakland), MDARC (in Lafayette) and SBARA (in Fremont). I'll try to get to LARC (in Livermore) this month. If anyone wants to buy a ticket for the 4 band HT by Icom give me a call.

Well, that's it for another month. See you all in November.

## W6CUS Club Station Report Ralph Hall, W6EFD

HOWDY to all from the club station. All is well here, with all systems "GO" (at this time anyway.) On rare occasions, the packet bulletin board "crashes", but our Digital Committee Chairperson restores it to service in short order.

One potential problem has been noted: On a recent visit to the club station, I found that the linear amplifier had apparently been shut down with the ON/OFF power switch on the amp's front panel, and the ON/OFF switch on the "black box" (which hangs below the shelf on which the amp rests) was left in the ON position.

No damage per se was, or would, be done to the equipment by shutting it down in this manner. But a problem would arise if another person, not noting this switching condition, attempted to use the ICOM 738 "barefoot" (without using the linear). With

the "black box" switch in the ON position, the ICOM 738's RF output would be fed to the linear's input circuit, rather than to an outside antenna. Effective output power from the ICOM to an antenna would be limited to what little "feed-through" the linear amp's circuitry might provide. Even a check with the ICOM's SWR meter would show nothing amiss, as the linear's input impedance is approximately equal to that of most antennas.

Enough said -- please leave the linear amplifier's ON/OFF switch in the ON position at all times, and switch the linear ON or OFF by the "black box" switch. To that end, the linear amp's ON/OFF switch has now been scotch taped in the ON position to discourage its use.

Should users of the linear amp have questions about its operation, an operating manual, prepared by Sharon (AA6XZ) and this writer, will be found in the pull-out drawer under the operating table immediately below the linear amp. Also, if any club member would like to have personal instructions in the amp's operation, simply contact the Club Station Chairperson.

## HT Fundraiser for EBARC

You can win a new ICOM IC-T81A HT. This is the radio of your dreams. It covers the 6 Meter, 2 Meter, 70 Centimeter, and 23 Centimeter bands in one palm sized radio. It is easy to program and can also be programmed from your computer. The radio develops 5 watts on the three lower bands and 1 watt on 23 Cm (1.2 GHz).

The club is selling chances for a donation of \$5 each. As a further incentive for members of other clubs 30% (\$1.50) of

each donation will be sent to the club of your choice.

There are only about 50 of the 200 tickets left. The drawing will happen at the Christmas EBARC meeting unless the tickets sell before then. You do not need to be present to win.

Tickets can be purchased from John Wood, KF6HFA, 234-0527, or come to a club meeting. You may also be able to buy tickets at other club meetings in the area.

## General Meeting Minutes September 10, 1999 "Midge" Wood, KF6OGC, Secretary

President John Wood, KF6HFA, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes of the August1999 general meeting were approved as printed in the *Blown Fuse*.

John reported on his discussion with the acting city manager of Richmond, in which he learned that the city is hoping to convert the existing police dept. building into an EOC. In that case the Red Cross hopes to occupy a space in it. Otherwise they hope to rebuild the existing location. In any case, the issue is complex and probably will not be resolved soon.

Alan Eshleman has been selling the ham equipment donated to EBARC by Marjorie Davidson, 2289 Diablo Circle, Pinole on behalf of her silent key husband. We thank her for the donations.

Alan Eshleman is moving ahead with plans for the Solano Stroll on Sunday Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>, and requested volunteers. Donors of items

for the drawing are: Ham Radio Outlet, a short wave portable radio; Robin Fraatz, earthquake preparedness kits; John Wood, a digital clock. We thank them all. Other items for the drawing are a multimeter and a pair of family radios.

Chet Pike got one-week's notice for requested volunteers to help at traffic barricades for the El Sobrante Stroll on September 19<sup>th</sup>. If enough EBARC members volunteer, we could also have a booth at this stroll.

The picnic with the CCCC group at Miller-Knox Park, will be on the same day (the 19th) as the El Sobrante Stroll.

Gordy gave a detailed report on the current state of our treasury. The rent for the Albany Senior Center has gone up \$5 to \$45 per meeting. We still need money, although fundraisers and dues increases will help. We're collecting dues for 2000.

Ron Smith asked us to begin thinking now about where we want to hold next year's Field Day.

Sam Watson asked for volunteers for this year's Bayer safety fair, to be held mid-day Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. The location is Dwight Way and 7<sup>th</sup> in Berkeley.

Henry Primbsch reported that the few people who came to the September EBARC-ARRL licensing exam all passed.

We have been asked to assist with a Boy Scout Jamboree, scheduled to be held in mid-October.

This evening's speaker, was Michael Polkinghorn, K6PUD. He encouraged us to take part in ARRP VHF contests and gave us lots of tips and ideas on how to do it.

He emphasized that all that is required to enter is to be licensed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

## Treasurer's Report September, 1999 Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

SEPTEMBER INCOME
New Member: KP6WXC \$20.00
Individual Renewals: WD6GGC, WB6IZE,
KD6WNM, KD6SWU, KF6IHW. 125.00
Family Renewals: KF6HEX/Bud 30.00
J. Wood's HT Ticket Sales 300.00
KE6HKQ Donation3.00
Field Day Patch Sales 3.00
Coffee Kitty Can 8.25
Station Fund Can21.85
Total September Income \$511.10

SEPTEMBER DISBURSEMENTS	
Blown Fuse Printing	\$30.96
Blown Fuse Postage	
City of Albany (room rental)	45.00
Refreshments (R. Fraatz)	
W6CUS phone (Pacific Bell)	
Total Sept. Disbursements	

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNT	<u>TS</u>
Checking (General Fund)	
Savings (Station Fund*)	\$906.47

\*\$429.23 belongs to the General Fund.

Our monthly room rental fee has been increased by \$5 a month. We now pay \$45 to hold a meeting at the Senior Center. This is one reason we had to raise our dues. Regular individual: \$25, Family membership; \$30. It's still a good deal to be a member of a great radio club! We're now collecting dues for the year 2000. Remember to feed the Kitty!

## Hiatus for "WAR" Gayle "Burgie" Jones, KE6MSF

The Women's Amateur Roundtable (WAR) net began about four years ago with Barbara Grazer, KD6OKJ and Jan Bryant, N6UYE. It was successful and everyone loved it. It was a new beginning for many women who were a little shy to talk on the radio but wanted the experience. I was so excited when Wednesdays came around. When I first began talking on the radio, I was so nervous I would write what I planned to say, word for word, on a piece of paper so I would remember it. How funny that time seems now that I look back on it!

I don't remember exactly when I began as the net controller for the women's net. Barbara called me one day and asked if I would be interested. I was so nervous. I woke up early Wednesday morning, knowing the net did not begin until 8 p.m., unable to think of anything but the women's net. Well I guess I did just fine, because I became the net controller for several years. I then got to a point where I was unable to continue to run the net by myself. I began asking other ladies if they would be interest in becoming net controller for the women's net. Cheryl Johnson, KF6HEN, became my first net controller. She was wonderful. I then enlisted the help of Ginny Summerer, KF6HEX: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ; Robin Fraatz, KE6MRH; and Barbara Grazer KD6OKJ. I was very fortunate to enlist such great net controllers. They are all wonderful!

Many years have past since our debut. At times our check-ins would range from 20 - 27 ham radio operators. However, over the last four months our average check-ins are two to four. We have decided at this time to close the women's net until next ear. We

will publicize our return. I would like to thank every net controller who gave their time to help keep the Women's Amateur Roundtable alive. I would also like to thank all of you who allowed me to come into your homes and lives every week. I will truly miss the Women's Amateur Roundtable!

#### Overheard at the 4Cs/EBARC Picnic:

Q: How did you like the picnic?

A: To many yellow-jackets were there.

## **EBARC Roster Update**

NEW MEMBER: Max Driggs,
KF6WXC, is a Tech who lives at 6012
Monterey Ave., Richmond, CA 94805.
You can reach him at 510-236-8738 or
mdriggs1@mindspring.com. He likes
exploring FM, increasing his ham skills,
computers, photography, and working
with people with special needs.

## **Future Bay Area Events**

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, 510-447-3857, evenings.
- Foothill Flea Market, 2nd Saturday of each month, March through October, Foothill College, Los Altos Hills.
- Pacificon '99, October 15-17, Concord CA. Call Sam Watson, N6VIF, for advance tickets 510-223-6408.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions, first Sunday in every odd-numbered month (except holidays). The next exam is Nov. 7th. For more info, call 510-741-8227 or 510-841-7233.

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$20 for individual membership and \$24 for a family membership. For information, e-mail to w6cus@juno.com, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC official, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at the Richmond Red Cross. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.630 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

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Northern Alameda County ARES Net Contra Costa Communications Club Net Elmers Net Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net "Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net Northern Calif. Net VHF Session "Going Home Group"	Thurs Thurs Thurs Thurs Mo-Fr Daily Mo-Fr	1915 1930 (PL 82 2000 (PL 82 1930 (PL 72 0710 (PL 82 1930 1600 (PL 82	2.5) 145.110 7) 146.880 2.5) 145.110 145.410

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(DJ-S41T shown)



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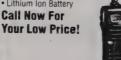
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**CLUB STATION W6CUS** 

**VOLUME LII NUMBER 11** 

**NOVEMBER 1999** 



## **EBARC Meeting**

November 5, 1999 7:30 p.m.

A Movie Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ



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POSTMASTER: Address Correction Requested

The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. The Blown Fuse welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. The Blown Fuse reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of The Blown Fuse. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for Dec. issue: Monday, Nov. 22

[Articles can be submitted by "snail" mail, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail (no attachments) to aa6xz@juno.com.]

## Message from the President John Wood, KF6HFA

My goodness, only two more months to go and it is Y2K. Speaking of Y2K, the RACES organization will be looking for people to be available starting about 1600 PST, New Year's Eve in order to be ready to man the emergency radios around the county in hospitals, fire departments, etc. If you will be available please call Rich Parker, 237-2777 and get on his resource list

Ticket sales for the ICOM 4 Band HT are going fairly well. I have about 25 left and will be going to Glen Ellen on Wednesday evening to meet yet another club. I'm hoping that all the tickets will be sold by the end of the next EBARC meeting, so that we can have the drawing. I would sure like to get this thing over with. If you are thinking about buying a ticket (or another ticket) please do so.

As many of you have heard, the club has another silent key, Steve Dodge, K6ZR. He passed away around the first of October. I didn't know him personally but I'm told that he was responsible for many items in the Blown Fuse and recently has been unable to attend meetings due to poor eyesight. We will greatly miss him. There will be an opportunity to speak in remembrance of him at the November meeting. If you have something that you would like to say, just come prepared to do so. Time will be made available.

It is my understanding that the election of officers will be held at the next meeting also. If you have any ideas or suggestions for persons to serve, please call Ron Smith, KE6RS, the search committee chairman. His number is 510-724-5099.

See you at the meeting on November 12th.

## Silent Key: Steve Dodge, K6ZR

Steve Dodge, lifetime EBARC member and supporter, was killed October 1<sup>st</sup> in an auto collision 12 miles outside of Grant's Pass in Oregon. He was 87 this past January. At the November EBARC meeting, there will be an "open mike" so members who knew him personally can share their memories with all of us. Please bring your "Steve Dodge" stories with you.

## **EBARC History Preserved**

EBARC thanks Len Brandi, W6LWX, for donating the 1955 East Bay Radio Club roster and the April 1955 *Blown Fuse* to our club's historical archives.

# General Meeting Minutes October 8, 1999 Ginny Summerer, KF6HEX Acting Secretary

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

Minutes of the September 1999 General Meeting were approved as printed in the Blown Fuse.

Alan Eshleman reported the success of our booth at the Solano Stroll. He gave a check to the Treasurer for \$413, which included the income from selling the used ham equipment. The cost of the Stroll booth was \$50 and walkie-talkies was \$150, giving us a net loss of \$15 on the Stroll. Most of the raffle prizes were won by club members.

Treasurer's Report was given by Gordy Parsons, NU6W. He is selling historical patches for \$1 each. He has received \$800 from John Wood, KF6HFA, for the HT raffle. There are 29 tickets left unsold.

Nominating committee: We need a slate for the year 2000. Neither John Wood nor Alan Eshleman will be officers. Volunteers on the committee are Ron Smith, KE6RS; Mike Camp, KI7FQ; and Harry Bier, WA6TNI. Elections are in November.

Ron Smith will investigate locations for next year's Field Day, assisted by Mike Camp and Alan Eshleman.

Mike Camp needs a replacement for the Digital Chairperson.

Harry Bier reported on the picnic with the 4Cs. No bill has been received yet on the joint event.

The Bayer Safety Fair was attended by Robbie Robinson, N6MNL, and Sam Watson, N6VIF.

There's no news on the City of Richmond property as it affects the club station. John Wood does not think the club is under any time pressure to make a decision.

John Billiones, WD6GGC, brought up Alan's idea of a QRP net, which uses simple circuitry less than or equal to 1 watt. Ron Smith and John volunteered extra parts to others. Ron reached Santa Rosa on 5 milliwatts (with patience)!

We will join the 4Cs at Rod's Hickory Pit for lunch, Sunday December 12<sup>th</sup>. We will have the December 10<sup>th</sup> EBARC meeting as a gift exchange, \$10 max, anything whimsical or funny.

There was discussion of having a crab feed as a fundraiser. Fred Nieman, KC6VLL, will be contacted.

The December Board meeting will be at Martha Hurley's home.

Silent key, Steve Dodge, an EBARC life member, died last week in an auto accident.

Joe Lee is sending messages, at no charge, to the disaster areas back east, (at least 50 miles away).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Since the U.S. Coast Guard representative could not present a program, Alan gave an original home video program, complete with popcorn and humor! He showed us his QSO HF operation in Weaverville, where he did 988 contacts in a 24-hour period;

660 CW, 328 phone, the first weekend in October. Included were Henry Primbsch's Antarctica antenna, a cat, a snake, and a wife. [in that order, Alan?? – Editor]

# Treasurer's Report October, 1999 Gordon Parsons, NU6W, Treasurer

OCTOBER INCOME	
Individual Renewals: W6EFD, A	C6WF,
KF60GA, K6HVU, NU6W	\$125.00
Family Renewals: KF6WHN/Sha	aron30.00
Station Fund Can	7.00
Coffee Kitty Can	8.25
Raffle Ticket Sales (Sept.)	12.00
Raffle Ticket Sales (Oct.)	13.00
J. Wood's HT Raffle Sales	500.00
Donations (via Alan Eshleman).	413.00
Total October Income	.\$1,112.25

OCTOBER DISBURSEMENTS	
Blown Fuse Postage	\$40.59
Blown Fuse Printing	37.45
State of CA (corp. filing fee)	10.00
Refreshments (R. Fraatz)	15.84
City of Albany (room rental)	45.00
Picnic Supplies (F. Nieman)	70.67
W6CUS phone (Pacific Bell)	15.95
Total Oct. Disbursements	\$235.50

BANK OF THE WEST ACCOUNTS
Checking (General Fund)\$1,970.05
Savings (Station Fund*)\$942.47

\*\$429.23 belongs to the General Fund.

A special thanks goes to Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, for his efforts in raising \$413 to add to our treasury. Alan put in many hours for the Solano Stroll project and in selling donated radio equipment. The year 2000 membership dues are now being collected (individual \$25, family \$30).

Please plan to pay before the end of this year, so the Executive Committee can plan next year's activities.

Remember to feed the kitty!

2000 EBARC Membership Renewal		
Name N. T. T. C. A. F.		
Call Sign N T T+ G A E License Class (circle)		
Street		
City, State, Zip		
Phone (include area code)		
ARRL Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No Membership Type ☐ Regular ☐ Family		
Additional family member name, call, and class		
Please use the lines above to tell us your ham interests, and any non-ham skills or hobbies		

# **EBARC Roster Update**

 NEW ADDRESS: Cheryl Johnson, KF6HEN, has moved to 220 Apollo #7, Hercules CA 94547. Her new phone number is 510-964-1503.

# **EBARC Elections at November Meeting**

The nominating committee (Ron Smith, KE6RS; Mike Camp, KI7FQ; and Harry Bier, WA6TNI) has nominated the following people for year 2000 EBARC offices:

President: (open)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: (open) 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: (open)

3rd Vice President: Sharon Primbsch,

AA6XZ

Secretary: (open)

Treasurer: Gordy Parsons, NU6W.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the November meeting, followed by the election. Installation of year 2000 officers will be at the December EBARC meeting.

# Looking Back Ron Smith, KE6RS, Historian

Below is the third of three articles on RFI that were published in the April, May, and June, 1990 issues of the Blown Fuse. Parts one and two were reprinted in the July 1999 Blown Fuse. [edited for length – It's a good idea to let your neighbor do the work on his/her own devices – Editor]

RFI - How To Deal With Your Neighbor by Bill Walton, KJ6EO

# PART THREE: DEVICE REPAIR

Simple chokes, capacitors, and high pass filters, available at your local Radio Shack store, will reduce or eliminate the RFI problem. Follow the instructions on the package on how to install the device. I have installed the devices in the manner described below with good results:

TV: Install a snap-together choke on the power cord of the set. Wind as many turns as you can get on the choke. The more turns the choke has the better it will perform in reducing RF on the line that it is attached to.

VCR: Install a high pass filter into the antenna feedline as close to the set as possible. If the TV has a VCR, install the high pass filter into the antenna feedline as close to the VCR as possible. Also, place a snap-together choke on the power cord of the VCR. If the TV has a cable converter box, install a snap-together choke on the power cord of the converter box.

STEREO: Install a snap-together choke on the right and left speaker wires as close to the amplifier as possible. Install another snap-together choke on the power cord of the stereo amplifier. If you still receive RFI on the stereo it may be necessary to install snap-together chokes on the power cords of all the components in the system. You can try to switch the input on the stereo amplifier back and forth between AUX, TUNER, and TAPE to locate the RF entrance source. Then install a snap-together choke on all lines in and out of the effected unit.

PHONE: Install a snap together choke on the telephone line as close to the telephone as possible. If the choke does not eliminate all the interference, open the case of the telephone and install *two* 88mH chokes one in the (green, or TIP lead) and one in the (red, or RING lead). These chokes will eliminate RFI in all but the worst cases.

If you follow the suggestions contained in these bulletins, I am sure you will have positive results. I do not claim to be an expert on RFI matters, or on how to deal with angry neighbors. However, I did want to share with you my opinion on how to deal with these matters. Thanks to Mike Curtis, WD6HER, of *The Telephone Man Communications Systems* for his information on the installation and use of the 88mH chokes.

### **CCCC / EBARC Holiday Party**



Entertainment, Prizes, & Fellowship Family Event – Everyone's Welcome

Rod's Hickory Pit, Vallejo Sunday, December 12, 1999 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Lunch Served at 1:30 p.m.

Mail the Reservation Form Below

Name(s)
Call Sign(s)
Chef Salad & Soup #
BBQ Beef & Salad #
BBQ Turkey & Salad #
Total # of dinners = #
\$15 per person (includes tax, tip, coffee or tea) \$
Make check payable to "Contra Costa Communications Club" and mail to:
C.C.C.C. P. O. Box 20661 El Sobrante, CA 94820-0661
Your tickets will be held at the door

### Stuff for Sale

The following used equipment is for sale by Alan Eshleman, doctore@well.com or 510-540-8790. EBARC gets 10% of the proceeds.

- Yaesu FT-990 HF rig with speaker in perfect condition. \$1000 or best offer
- HP 606B rack-mounted signal generator
- BF 2005A bench-size signal generator
- Heath 2718 Tri Power low voltage, low power switching power supply
- Small (2-inch) Heath oscilloscope
- Some tube test equipment

# **Future Bay Area Events**

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, 510-447-3857, evenings.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions, first Sunday in every odd-numbered month (except holidays). The next exam is Nov. 7th. For more info, call 510-741-8227 or 510-841-7233.

Happiness is hearing about the 40% off sale at your favorite ham store the day after you buy.

Happiness is thoroughly enjoying a music recital, and then noticing your VOX is on.

Happiness is working your butt off for over a year to pass your 13 wpm code test, passing the 20 wpm test instead, upgrading from Technician to Extra, and a month later having to sell your HF rig to pay for emergency dental surgery. (This really happened to some poor ham!)

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$20 for individual membership and \$24 for a family membership. For information, e-mail to w6cus@juno.com, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC official, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at the Richmond Red Cross. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.630 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

# 1999 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

John Wood KF6HFA, President  Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ, 1st VP - Program Chair  Mike Camp KI7FQ, 2nd VP - Hospitality Chair  Sharon Primbsch, 3rd VP - Membership / Blown Fuse Editor  Gordon Parsons NU6W, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair  "Midge" Wood, KF60GC, Secretary  Ralph Hall W6EFD, W6CUS trustee / Club Station Chair  Henry Primbsch KK6PH, Education Chair  Social Committee Chair	524-0723 741-8227 785-4290 234-8919 232-0727 741-8227
Publicity Chair	724-0533
RFI Committee Chair	
Ron Smith KE6RS, Field Day Chair / Historian	724-5099
Ginny Summerer KF6HEX, Member-at-Large	526-6827
Robin Fraatz KE6MRH, Member-at-Large	524-0723
John Billones WD6GGC, Member-at-Large	237-1272
Gerry White, WB6IZE, Member-at-Large	531-8639

### AMATEUR RADIO NETS

NET EBARC Slow CW Net EBARC SSB Net No. Calif. VHF National Traffic System Net West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net """" """ """"	DAYS Weds Weds Daily Thurs	2030 2100 2030 1845 (PL 82	147.57s
Northern Alameda County ARES Net Contra Costa Communications Club Net Elmers Net Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net "Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net Northern Calif. Net VHF Session "Going Home Group"	Thurs Thurs Thurs Thurs Mo-Fr Daily Mo-Fr	1915 1930 (PL 82 2000 (PL 82 1930 (PL 73 0710 (PL 82 1930 1600 (PL 83	2.5) 145.110 7) 146.880 2.5) 145.110 145.410

ARES/RACES EC - West CoCoCo. Rich Parker KD6JCT home: 237-2777, beeper: 873-7363, cell phone: 499-4557. Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s.

Look for the HAO Home Page on the World Wide Web http://www.hamradio.com

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# THE BLOWN FUSE



**VOLUME LII NUMBER 12** 

**DECEMBER 1999** 



### EBARG PARTY

December 10, 1999 7:30 p.m.

Holiday Gift Exchange and Dessert Potluck



The East Bay Amateur Radio Club meets the second Friday of each month at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave., (near Solano) Albany. The Executive Board meets the first Friday of this month at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Martha Hurley, 137 Purdue Ave., Kensington

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Post Office Box 1393
El Cerrito, CA 94530





FIRST CLASS MAIL



Ronald A. Smith, KE6RS 2643 Emma Dr. Pinole, CA 94564

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Deadline for Jan. issue: Monday, Dec. 20

[Articles can be submitted by "snail" mail, by dictation over the 'phone, or by e-mail (no attachments) to aa6xz@juno.com.]

# Message from the President John Wood, KF6HFA

As I sit here at the computer I am reflecting over the past year and am reminiscing about the things that we got done this past year. First, in stream of consciousness order, was the annual Field Day happening. This seems to be the major event of the year and thanks to our illustrious First Vice-president Alan, K6SRZ, we had one of the best scores that we have ever had. Under the direction of Ron, KE6RS, we had a very smooth running weekend including, for the first time, the Salvation Army's Canteen truck to prepare the food for the participants, schmoozers and visitors.

Next was the Albany, Solano Stroll. We had a group of the usual suspects that stayed for most or all of the day and was present to answer the questions of the passers-by. There seemed to be a greater than usual interest in the concept of Ham

Radio and so it was decided to do it next year in spite of the fact that we almost broke even.

We had some very successful fund raising for the club this past year. Alan, K6SRZ, was able to convert the ham shack equipment from several Silent Keys into cash, which has been reflected in the healthy treasurer reports of late. Additionally, I raffled off a 4 band HT, which was won by Brian Treusch, W6LL of Oakland. I had attended club meetings all around the area going as far south as Fremont, as far east as Pittsburg and as far north as Glen Ellen. I took in almost \$1000 and after purchasing the radio and sharing 30% of the other club member's donations with their clubs there was over \$400 to go into EBARC's treasury. All in all, it was a good effort.

Then there were some things that were started but weren't finished. The most glaring one is the status of the club station building agreement with the Red Cross. At this writing the status is the same as last announced, we are waiting for the City of Richmond and the Red Cross to agree on the site of the Red Cross offices in Richmond. They will either stay where they are or will move into the, yet to be acquired, Richmond OES building. It could be a very long time before this is decided.

Finally, there is the problem with the Club Station's packet station. Several people have attempted to become the SYSOP for the station, which is necessary for the station to become fully functional and reliable. At the present time it is down more than it is up, and the up time is only because Ralph Hall reboots it when he notices that it is down again. In a moment of weakness last month, I agreed at the executive meeting to try my hand at the

running of the system. I must admit that my heart isn't really in it either, as I don't ever use the system myself. I wonder if it is time to abandon the system due to lack of interest by the club membership. I guess that I'll leave that for the incoming officers for next year to wrestle with.

Speaking of officers, we nominated and elected by acclamation the officers at the last meeting. Thanks to everyone that agreed to run and I'll see new officers at the Board Meeting at Martha Hurley's residence on December 3rd. Everyone else be sure to attend the Christmas meeting of EBARC on December 10th. Be sure to bring a wrapped present (\$10 or less) and some goodies for the dessert table. We will again run the gift exchange with the usual thievery that regularly attends the ritual. I hope to see everyone there.

# W6CUS Club Station Report Ralph Hall, W6EFD

All continues to be well at the club station. I mentioned at the last club meeting that the packet BBS has been going down frequently but, the following day while Roger (KE6SZG) and I were trying to solve the problem, Fred (KC6VLL) appeared on the scene and waved his magic wand. As of this time, the BBS has not crashed again. Mucho thanks Fred.

Again, access to the club station is available to club members in good standing and who have been a club member for at least six months. If you desire club station access, contact the Club Station Chairperson for the required indoctrination, which takes about 1-1/2 hours. When that

is completed, a door key will be issued to you.

# General Meeting Minutes November 12, 1999 "Midge" Wood, KF6OGC, Secretary

President John Wood called the meeting to order at 7:30.

Treasurer Gordy Parsons reported on outgoing and incoming payments and announced that membership fees for 2000 are now due.

Sharon announced that the next executive meeting will be held at the home of Martha Hurley.

Reports were heard from Joe, Ron, and Ralph.

Time was set aside to remember Steve Dodge, K6ZR, who recently became a "silent key". Steve was described as having been dedicated to ham radio and was a worldwide expert on corrosion control. He designed the corrosion control of the tanks at the Steinhart Aquarium and numerous others. He was described as a pilot who liked to talk, was musical, creative, and innovative. We heard many loving anecdotes and it is clear that he will be missed.

Condolences are also extended to Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ on the loss of his father.

The club membership also wishes to thank Alan for the outstanding job he performed as program chairman this year. The program for this meeting consisted of a movie he showed of several air shows featuring awesome airplane performances of various kinds.

The December meeting will feature our annual Christmas party, which is always lots of fun. Everyone is to bring a gift costing no more than \$10 for the exchange and a dessert for potluck goodies. The joint EBARC-CCCC Christmas party will be a luncheon held on Dec. 12, cost \$15. Get your tickets from Barbara Grazer. Prizes will be drawn there, thanks to the generosity of the Ham Radio Outlet. Sharon, AA6XZ and Henry, KK6PH Primbsch volunteered as EBARCs dinner helpers.

The possibility of a crab feed fundraiser in January or February next year was discussed. Fred Nieman, KC6VLL, say we'd need volunteers to sell about 100-150 tickets, and we'd need a hall. The last crab feed earned about \$10 for every attendee. He suggests that serving alcohol isn't worth the bother. It's best to schedule it for a Friday or Saturday night (Saturday's best). A motion was passed to have the Board do the planning for the Crab Feed.

There was a discussion of having a microphone and speakers. Some people have trouble hearing at monthly meetings, especially when the BART train passes.

Thanks also to Bob Uhrhammer, WB6VEX, who has donated two commercial antennas (220 MHz Yagis) to the club.

We are told that the FCC is restructuring the rules governing the various amateur licensing categories. Both the FCC and AARL will hopefully announce them before the end of the year.

Following the break, nominations were taken for all offices. It was then moved,

seconded and passed that nominations be closed, and the following candidates were elected by acclimation:

- 1. President: Gayle "Burgie" Jones, KE6MSF
- 2. Ist Vice President (in charge of program); Ron Smith, KE6RS
- 3. 2nd Vice President (in charge of refreshments): Roger Nelums, KE6SZG
- 4. 3rd Vice President (in charge of membership): Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ
- 5. Secretary: Cheryl Johnson, KF6HEN
- 6. Treasurer: Gordon Parsons, NU6W

We were reminded that anyone who is interested is welcome to attend the executive board meetings on the first Friday of the month (usually held at the club station). As previously noted, the December Board meeting will be at the home of Martha Hurley.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 for the scratchers raffle and the HT raffle.

# HT Raffle Results John Wood, KF6HFA

At the November EBARC meeting I sold the last 10 tickets for the fund-raising event that I have been running for the past several months. I made a set of 200 tickets and then visited several of the club meetings around the area.

I really enjoyed the experience and found the people at these clubs to be wonderfully warm and friendly.

The tickets were offered at \$5.00 each and no one seriously asked for a free one. Some of the clubs I attended more than once. The large number (85) attributed to EBARC club members was not really that high. Whenever someone would fill out a

ticket they were expected to declare their club of choice. Whenever someone didn't specify any club, I assigned it to EBARC so that we could keep as much as possible. There were 14 tickets in the "None" category. Even at that, EBARC was by far the biggest purchaser of tickets. That means that club members were mostly responsible for the funds recently added to the treasury. Thanks to everyone who participated.

Ham Radio Outlet was very generous to us in that they shaved the cost of the radio to the bare minimum so as to maximize our profit. Thanks to Mark and the other friendly folks at HRO for their interest in our club so let's each pay them a visit soon.

I'll leave it to Gordy to do an accurate accounting of the moneys collected and disbursed. I don't remember what the radio cost so I can't complete it here. It was in the neighborhood of \$405. That gives us a net of about \$415 or so.

I have included the breakdown of which clubs participated and to what level. I also included the amount that will be sent to each club as a thank-you to the club members that helped us out. A few of the clubs mentioned below have only one or two tickets attributed to them. That's because the person that bought the ticket was more closely associated with the indicated club than with the one where s/he bought the ticket.

EBARC	85	(We keep the 30%)	
CCCC	6	\$24.00	
CCRA	7	10.50	
DELTA	8	12.00	
ESTERO	2	3.00	
KARO	1	1.50	
MARC	1	1.50	
MDARC	14	21.00	

ORCA	14	21.00
PAARA	2	3.00
ROVARC	18	27.00
SBARA	15	22.50
VOMARC	15	22.50
Lost Tickets	5 2	
Totals	200	\$169.50

Finally, I want to say again that I enjoyed the process and would consider doing it again at some time in the future. When some new toy that I think many hams would like to have comes on the market, I'll probably do it again.

2000 EBARC Membership Renewal		
Name Call Sign	N T T+ G A E License Class (circle)	
Street		
City, State, Zip	not no recover on the la	
Phone (include area	code)	
ARRL Member? Membership Type	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Regular ☐ Family	
Additional family mo	ember's name, call, and class	
Please use the linterests, and a	ines above to tell us your ham any non-ham skills or hobbies	

For Field Day 1999, EBARC'S 4788 points brought us in 71st in the group of 585 "2A" stations. That's the top 12 percent! We're Good!!

### CCCC / EBARC Holiday Party



Entertainment, Prizes, & Fellowship Family Event – Everyone's Welcome

# **NEW LOCATION AND TIME!**

Vallejo Elk's Lodge 2850 Redwood Parkway, Vallejo

Sunday, December 12, 1999 12:00 noon, Lunch at 1:00 p.m.

Directions: from Contra Costa County, take I-80 East to Redwood Parkway. At the first light turn, right. Get into the left lane. At the next light, turn left into the parking lot. Talk-in is on the 4Cs 145.11 repeater

Mail the Reservation Form by Dec. 3rd!

Name(s)	
Call Sign(s)	
Chef Salad & Soup	#
Beef Dinner	#
Turkey Dinner	#
Total # of dinners =	#
\$15 per person (incl coffee or tea) \$	
Make check payable Communications Clu	
C.C.C.C. P. O. Box 20661 El Sobrante, CA 948	320-0661

# **Future Bay Area Events**

- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday of each month at Las Positas College, 7 a.m. to noon, all year. Talk-in 147.045 MHz. For more info, call Noel, KC6QZK, 510-447-3857, evenings.
- EBARC-sponsored ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions, first Sunday in every odd-numbered month (except holidays). The next exam is Jan. 2nd. For more info, call 510-741-8227 or 510-841-7233.

# Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> EBARC Meeting Gift Exchange & Dessert Potluck

There will be a voluntary "round robin" gift exchange. Any member or guest who wants to take part in the exchange should bring one wrapped, untagged, gift valued under \$10. The gift should be in good taste and gender neutral (suitable for either a man or a woman). Every participant's name goes into a hat. The first person selected opens any gift he/she wishes to open. Everyone thereafter can either open another gift or take an opened gift away from somebody else. If a person chooses to take a gift from somebody, that person can either open a wrapped gift or take a gift from a different person. The turn ends when a gift is opened, and then a new name is drawn from the hat. On any one "turn", you cannot take the same gift from somebody else. In other words, if you started a turn with a teddy bear and somebody took it from you, you cannot end that particular turn in possession of the teddy bear. To keep the game moving, we might want to agree on a limit of 4 or 5 "thefts" per turn. The exchange ends when the last gift has been opened.

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$25 for individual membership and \$30 for a family membership. For information, e-mail to w6cus@juno.com, call (510) 233-7509, contact any EBARC official, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. The East Bay Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station, W6CUS, at the Richmond Red Cross. The packet station, W6CUS-1, is on 145.630 Mhz, and is linked to the EAST BAY LAN (EBAY) on 223.720 Mhz.

# 1999 EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Gerry White, WB6IZE, Member-at-Large	531-8639

# AMATEUR RADIO NETS

NET	DAYS	LOCAL TIME	FREQ, MHZ
EBARC Slow CW Net	Weds	2030	21.115
EBARC SSB Net	Weds	2100	28.395
No. Calif. VHF National Traffic System Net West Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Net	Daily	2030	145.210
	Thurs	1845 (PL 82.5	,
u u u u u	tt	u	147.57s
Northern Alameda County ARES Net	Thurs	1915	147.48s
Contra Costa Communications Club Net	Thurs	1930 (PL 82.5	,
	Thurs	2000 (PL 82.	5) 145.110
	Thurs	1930 (PL 77)	146.880
"Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net	Mo-Fr	0710 (PL 82.	5) 145.110
	Daily	1930	145.410
"Going Home Group"	Mo-Fr	1600 (PL 82.	5) 145.110
Northern Alameda County ARES Net Contra Costa Communications Club Net Elmers Net Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net "Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net Northern Calif. Net VHF Session	Thurs Thurs Thurs Mo-Fr Daily	1930 (PL 82.5 2000 (PL 82.5 1930 (PL 77) 0710 (PL 82.5 1930	147.48s 5) 145.110 5) 145.110 146.880 5) 145.110 145.410

ARES/RACES EC - West CoCoCo. Rich Parker KD6JCT home: 237-2777, beeper: 873-7363, cell phone: 499-4557. Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s.

Look for the **HRO Home Page** on the World Wide Web http://www.hamradio.com

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(800) 854-6046 Janet, WØMF, Mgr.

BURBANK, CA 2492 W. Victory Bl., 91506 (818) 842-1786 (800) 854-6046

Mary, K6VIV, Mgr. Victory Blvd. at Buena Vista 1 mi. west 1-5

OAKLAND, CA 2210 Livingston St., 94606 (510) 534-5757 (800) 854-6046 Mark WI7YN Mor

I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp

SAN DIEGO, CA 5375 Kearny Villa Rd., 92123 (619) 560-4900 (800) 854-6046

Tom, KM6K, Mar. Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa

SUNNYVALE, CA 510 Lawrence Exp. #102 94086 (408) 736-9496 (800) 854-6046 Ken, K1ZKM, Mgr. So. from Hwy. 101

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Tigard-99W exit from Hwy. 5 & 217

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SALEM, NH (Near Boston) 224 N. Broadway, 03079 (800) 444-0047 Chuck, KM4NZ, Mgr. sales@hamradio.com Exit 1, I-93; 28 mi. No. of Boston

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